

## Restraint and Isolation

This policy, along with its accompanying procedure, prohibits the use of isolation and sets forth the limited circumstances under which use of restraint is permissible. The district endeavors to maintain a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students in the district, including those who have an individualized education program (IEP), or plan developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, will remain free from isolation, impermissible restraint, and restraint devices.

This policy is intended to address district students. It is not intended to prevent or limit the use of restraint or other reasonable force as necessary with adults or other youth from outside the district as allowed by law.

Use of restraint as defined in the procedure accompanying this policy is prohibited unless the student's behavior poses an imminent likelihood of serious harm to the student or others. Restraint will only be used as a last resort after all appropriate de-escalation techniques have been implemented without success in addressing the immediate behavior crisis and staff believe that less restrictive interventions would be ineffective at stopping the imminent likelihood of serious harm. Restraint may not be used as a form of discipline or punishment, to prevent property destruction where there is no imminent likelihood of serious harm to the student or others, to force compliance with staff directions to a student, as a convenience to staff, or as a substitute for appropriate educational support.

Staff will closely monitor any use of restraint to prevent harm to the student and will use the minimum amount of restraint appropriate to protect the safety of students and staff. The use of restraint will be discontinued as soon as the likelihood of serious harm has dissipated or when less restrictive interventions would be effective at stopping the imminent likelihood of serious harm. A predetermined length of time or a timer may not be used to determine the end of a restraint.

Use of Isolation is prohibited. Isolation refers to the involuntary confinement of the student alone in any room or area from which the student may not leave or believes they are not free to leave regardless of its name. This includes any practice that would constitute isolation under Washington law, RCW 28A.600.485(1) and isolation through the confinement of a student using mats or by placing a student behind a door. Students will not be placed in former isolation rooms for any reason, including for any student behavioral or disciplinary purpose.

The superintendent or a designee will develop procedures to implement this policy, including review, reporting and parent/guardian notification of incidents involving restraint or isolation as required by law. Additionally, the superintendent will annually report to the board on incidents involving the use of force, including all restraints and isolations.

### Cross References:

[Policy 2161](#)

[Policy 2162](#)

[Policy 6514](#)

Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students  
Education of Students with Disabilities Under Section 504 of the  
Rehabilitation Act of 1973  
District and Campus Safety

Legal References:

<a href="#">RCW 9A.16.020</a>	Use of force - When lawful
<a href="#">RCW 9A.16.100</a>	Use of force on children - Policy - Actions presumed unreasonable
<a href="#">RCW 28A.150.300</a>	Corporal Punishment Prohibited - Adoption of policy
<a href="#">RCW 28A.155.210</a>	Use of restraint or isolation - Requirement for procedures to notify parent or guardian.
<a href="#">RCW 28A.600.485</a>	Restraint of students with individualized education programs or plans developed under section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973 - Procedures - Summary of incidents of isolation or restraint - Publishing to website, [ as amended by SHB 1240]
<a href="#">RCW 71.05.020</a>	Definitions
<a href="#">Chapter 392-172A WAC</a>	Rules for the provision of special education
<a href="#">WAC 392-400-235</a>	Discipline - Conditions and limitations

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Superintendent: Dr. Adam Swinyard