



Allsorts Restraint Policy

Purpose

Our key objective is to create an atmosphere of respect and understanding of right and wrong to minimise the need for manual handling and restraint - but in exceptional circumstances we need to be aware of acceptable procedures.

This policy outlines how and when restraint can be used, and by whom.

Practice

To minimise the need to use restraint, Allsorts aims to;

- Create a calm environment.
 - Build a culture of respect.
 - Use distraction techniques if incidents start to escalate.
 - Give children acceptable ways of dealing with emotion.
 - Prepare risk assessments in advance for individual children if we feel the situation may arise.
 - Only use force where the risks of not doing so, outweigh the risks of using force.
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Staff authorised to use restraint

Normally only staff in a supervisory role would be expected to use restraint but exceptional circumstances may dictate that any permanently contracted staff member will be authorised to use restraint.

Deciding whether to use restraint

Restraint should only be considered;

- as a last resort, if the child was putting themselves or others at risk of serious harm, through their actions
- if the chances of achieving the desired result by others means were low
- where the risks of not doing so, outweigh the risks of using force
- if a staff member has been trained in restraint techniques

If there is a need to restrain a child;

- do so with as little force as possible
- have another responsible adult present
- have other adults remove other children from immediate area
- ensure the adult's safety

After the incident;

- record the incident clearly with all adults witnessing the event
- review event and look at what could be done to prevent situation in the future
- parents should receive a copy of the report in conjunction with a one to one discussion about the incident