

Mission Statement

Ambrosoli is a community minded school that nurtures curiosity, creativity and global awareness through an inspiring, broad and engaging curriculum. Children learn to become resilient and respectful in an environment where each child is challenged and encouraged to thrive and achieve as an individual.

Our Vision

Empowering pupils to become confident compassionate and internationally minded learners.

Policy

All members of staff who may have to intervene physically with pupils, must clearly understand the options and strategies open to them. This policy clarifies what protective force is acceptable and when.

It should be noted that physical force is in no way authorised through the following policy. School policy forbids a teacher to use any degree of physical contact which is deliberately intended to punish a pupil, or which is intended to cause pain or injury or humiliation. Physical force is not justified for trivial misdemeanours and/or a situation that can be resolved without force.

Protective Use of Force Procedure

What is protective use of force?

The intention behind the protective use of force is to prevent injury or injustice; this in contrast with the intention behind the punitive use of force where it is to cause individuals to suffer for their perceived misdeeds. There is no generic legal definition of reasonable force. The degree and reasonability of force will depend upon circumstances.

The degree of force must be in proportion to the circumstances of the incident, always be the minimum needed to achieve the desired result and take into account the age and understanding of the child. The intention behind the protective use of force is only to protect, not to punish, blame or condemn.

Everyone has the right to defend themselves against an attack provided they do not use a disproportionate degree of force to do so.

Protective use of force

In all instances teachers/staff should first consider whether the situation can be dealt with using other strategies.

Protective use of force may be necessary to prevent a child from

- causing injury to themselves or others or when it is considered there is an imminent risk of injury e.g., off school premises a child steps out into a busy road;
- committing a crime;
- causing damage to property including their own;
- causing serious disruption, to the extent that staff and/or other students suffer from it and good order and discipline could not be maintained.

Practical considerations

Before intervening physically a teacher must:

- Tell the child who is misbehaving to stop;
- Tell the child what will happen if he/she does not stop;
- Remove other children who are at risk;
- Summon help from colleagues;
- Continue to talk with the child throughout the incident;
- Ensure he/she is acting with the intention to protect the child or others;
- Make clear that physical contact will stop when it ceases to be necessary;
- Retain a calm and measured approach;
- Do not give the impression of loss of temper or that action is being taken out of anger, frustration or a need to punish the child.

Recording incidents

Immediately following an incident the member of staff concerned should tell the Head of School and provide a written report using the agreed 'Ambrosoli Incident Sheet'.

A report must be given on all occasions where force is required. This will help prevent misunderstanding and would be necessary should there be a complaint.

This procedure would not be applicable in a minor or trivial incident. When a member of staff is unsure about the degree of incident they should always discuss the incident with the Head of School and agree together whether a report needs to be written or not.

If an incident report is filled in then the parent **must** be contacted by the Head of School.

Complaints

Complaints from a parent could lead to an investigation. Any complaint would take into account the school's policy on restraint and whether it had been followed.

