

NATCHAUG HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL

TITLE: SCHOOL RESTRAINT

Policy#: 1.12

Section: Community Programs

Subsection: School Programs

Purpose:

To ensure that restraint and/or seclusion are: (a) administered in a safe and humane fashion; (b) used only when students are at imminent risk of harm to self or others; (c) used only when less restrictive interventions have been found to be ineffective or are not possible; (d) never used for discipline, coercion, staff convenience or retaliation.

Scope:

Natchaug Hospital school programs that have students placed directly by school districts.

Policy:

The Natchaug Hospital School Programs assure optimum student safety when managing aggressive behaviors. A continuum of interventions, progressing from least restrictive and intrusive to maximally restrictive and intrusive is utilized in a manner that respects student rights. School staff at every level is trained in CPI's Nonviolent Crisis Intervention® and are responsible for recognizing and observing the signs of potential violent behavior, reporting it to the appropriate staff, and acting within the limits of their job description to protect the student, all other students, visitors and the staff. At all times, school staff will maintain the student's rights and treat the student humanely.

Restraint and seclusion in the Natchaug Hospital School Program complies with Section 10-76b-5 of The Connecticut Education Regulations "Use of physical restraint and seclusion in public schools" and Public Act 15-141.

Restraints and seclusions are prohibited unless in an emergency situation. This policy applies to both regular and special education students in kindergarten through grade twelve. A report of all restraints or seclusion for all students must be completed after every occurrence. A copy is mailed home as well as forwarded to the Director of School Programs no later than within 2 school days per state statute. A PPT must be conducted any time a student has received four (4) restraints in a 20-day period. The clock will continually reset after 20 days and another incident has occurred.

Definitions of Staff Roles

The Principal is directly responsible for the school program at the site where the student attends. If the Principal is not available, a certified or licensed school staff member may serve as the designee. The designee should be a staff member who is familiar with the student.

Parental Notification

The parent or guardian of a student who is placed in physical restraint or seclusion not later than twenty-four hours after the student was placed in physical restraint or seclusion. The Natchaug Hospital School staff will make a reasonable effort to provide such notification immediately after such physical restraint or seclusion is initiated. Such notification must be made by phone, e-mail or other method, which may

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include but is not limited to, sending a note home with the child. The incident report shall contain, at a minimum, the information required under subsection (d) of section 46a-152 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

Length of time for Restraint or Seclusion

The length of time:

- shall be limited to that time necessary to allow the person at risk to compose him or herself and return to the educational environment; and
- if any instance of physical restraint or seclusion of a student exceeds fifteen minutes, the Principal or Designee shall determine whether continued physical restraint or seclusion is necessary to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others. Upon a determination that such continued physical restraint or seclusion is necessary, the Principal or Designee must make a new determination every 30 minutes thereafter regarding whether such physical restraint or seclusion is necessary to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others.

VIOLENT/AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

RESPONSIBLE PERSON	ACTION
PRINCIPAL OR DESIGNEE	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Utilize the least restrictive method of de-escalating behavior while maintaining student's rights.<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Upon admission, review school referral packet and ongoing behavior data to assess potential for aggressive/violent behavior;B. Discuss and develop strategies, when possible, in a Planning and Placement Team meeting that includes the sending school district (local education agency/LEA), parent and student;C. Discuss and develop strategies in the School Treatment Team Meeting and inform parents and LEA of different approaches being taken;D. At all times maintain human dignity.2. All staff must be aware of escalating behavior and behavioral triggers that would potentially endanger self or others.3. Upon observing escalating behavior make every effort to utilize the least restrictive procedure.<ol style="list-style-type: none">A. Verbal interaction with student;B. Utilization of separate area (reduced stimulation);C. Other interventions as identified and appropriate.

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RESTRAINT AND SECLUSION PROCEDURES SUMMARY

Restraint and Seclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Used only in emergency situations, as ordered by Principal/Designeeb. Prone restraint is prohibitedc. Supervision—ongoing, if a student exceeds fifteen minutes, the Principal or Designee shall determine whether continued physical restraint or seclusion is necessary to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others. Upon a determination that such continued physical restraint or seclusion is necessary, the Principal or Designee must make a new determination every 30 minutes thereafter regarding whether such physical restraint or seclusion is necessary to prevent immediate or imminent injury to the student or to others.d. <i>Document – Incident of Physical Restraint or Incident of Seclusion sent to Parents and LEA; A Report of Injury any injury to the student in a restraint or seclusion will be reported to the State Department of Education.</i>
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Replaces:

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