



PHYSICAL RESTRAINT Policy

Approved by the School Board 4 May 2023

Rationale:	Cambridge Middle School is committed to minimise the effect of challenging behaviour and to safeguard the safety of students and staff. The school endeavours to create a climate that is in accord with its HERO values of happiness, excellence, relationships and opportunity in its approach to all student behaviour issues. This is supported by processes in accordance with the Bill of Rights Act (1990), the Children’s Act (2014), the Health and Safety and Work Act (2015), the Education and Training Act (2020) and the Education Physical Restraint Rules (2023).
Principles:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) The school aims to provide a safe physical and emotional environment for all students and staff.(b) Physical restraint is defined as using force to prevent, restrict or subdue the movement of a student’s body or part of the student’s body against the student’s will and is a serious intervention.(c) All teachers and learning assistants will be familiarised with the Ministry of Education Guidelines on reducing student distress and the use of physical restraint.(d) Authorised staff will undertake mandated professional development in prevention and de-escalation strategies used to limit the need to physically restrain a student.(e) A list of staff who are authorised to physically retrain students will be made available.(f) Appropriate reporting processes will be in place in accordance with the Ministry of Education Guidelines (2023).
Policy Statement:	The School Board supports and endorses the processes the school has in place to develop appropriate guidelines and procedures in accord with the Ministry of Education’s Rules and Guidelines on Physical Restraint of students.
Key Responsibilities:	The Principal and the School Leadership Team have responsibility for the implementation of this policy and will oversee a process for the development of the school’s guidelines and reporting processes.
Review:	2026
Related Information:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">1. Physical Restraint Guidelines2. Student Welfare Guidelines3. Child Protection Guidelines4. Health and Safety Guidelines5. Ministry of Education (Physical Restraint) Rules and Guidelines 2023