



## Positive Handling Policy

### Introduction

- 1.1 Wanborough Primary School takes seriously its duty of care towards children and young people, employees and visitors. Touch is a sensitive issue requiring careful judgement. The school recognises that there are occasions when staff are required to make physical interventions both to help children and young people and to prevent them from coming to harm. Whenever our staff act reasonably and act in good faith they will be supported. Any use of force should be proportionate to the consequences it is intended to prevent. It should be the minimum necessary to achieve the desired result.
- 1.2 The term 'Positive Handling' is used to describe the full range of strategies used to de-escalate, defuse and divert in order to prevent violence and reduce the risk of injury to staff, children, young people and others. The use of force only forms a small part of the Positive Handling Framework. All physical interventions, including restraint, are conducted within a framework of positive behaviour management. It is important to reward effort and application, encouraging children and young people to take responsibility for improving their own behaviour. Preventative approaches to risk reduction involve identifying and communicating early warning signs, situations, settings and other factors which may influence behaviour, then taking steps to divert behaviours leading towards foreseeable risk. Children and young people are encouraged to participate in the development of their own Positive Handling Plans by focusing on positive alternatives and choices. Parents are also encouraged to contribute.
- 1.3 Wanborough Primary School will adopt the Swindon Borough Council policy on Positive Handling and the use of Reasonable Force.

## **Training**

- Key members of staff have received Team Teach training. Our aim is for all staff to receive this training if possible.

"Team-Teach techniques seek to avoid injury to the pupil, but it is possible that bruising or scratching may occur accidentally, and these are not to be seen necessarily as a failure of professional technique, but a regrettable and infrequent "side-effect" of ensuring that the pupil remains safe".

(George Matthews - Director)

- All new staff to be made aware of this policy.
- A list of trained staff is publicised in the staffroom
- Staff will use the internal red cards to send for assistance

## **Risk Assessment**

- Individual known to be at risk will have a risk assessment and positive handling plan put into place to prevent situations occurring and to allow situation to be handled correctly.

## **Reporting of Incidents**

- Incidents will be reported in the Bound and Numbered book.
- Minor incidents of guiding and controlling will be recorded on White Behaviour slips

**Approved: (FGB) January 2024**

**Next Review: January 2026**