

Policy Number: MH 007	Title: Use of Physical Redirection and Physical restraint
Performance Standard: 1302.45 USD 418 BOE Policy:	Effective Date: 8/2015 Reviewed: 5/2020 JS
	Policy Council Approval/Revision: 9/2015, 6/2018, 5/2020 BOE Approval: 9/2015, 6/2018, 5/2020

Policy:

Physical redirection involves taking the child’s hand or arm and gently redirecting them to another area or a location in the classroom where they can calm down on their own.

Physical restraint involves an adult intervening with a child by physically holding the child until they have calmed down.

Procedure:

McPherson/Marion County Head Start staff will follow the district ESI policy and use physical restraint only under the following circumstances:

1. The child’s behavior endangers themselves or others.
2. The classroom staff have been trained in de-escalation techniques to reduce physical aggression and provide positive behavior support.
3. The staff will document the situation and the fact that restraint was used.
4. Parents, Director, Disabilities/Mental Health (D/MH) Coordinator, Education Coordinator and Principal will be notified as soon as possible.
5. The D/MH Coordinator will facilitate a meeting with the classroom team, parent and if consent is signed, the Mental Health Consultant to develop a plan to intervene in the future without the use of restraint.
6. In all cases, the use of the following is strictly forbidden:
 1. Corporal punishment of any kind that inflicts harm, pain or damage to a child.
 2. Isolation or any action by an adult that removes a child from the rest of the group, out of sight of the children or adults, as a means of punishment for the child’s behaviors or actions.
 3. Withholding of food or access to the bathroom.
 4. Unacceptable adult responses like screaming in anger; neglect; inflicting physical or emotional pain; criticism of a child’s person or family by ridiculing, blaming, teasing, insulting, name calling, threatening, or using frightening or humiliating punishment.
 5. Adults laughing at children’s inappropriate/negative behavior, or discussing it among themselves in the presence of children.