



# Timaru Christian School Procedures

## HS12 – Positive Guidance

At Timaru Christian School we aim to honour God in all we do.

Through our Scripture programme and interactions with the children, we will base our expectations for our collective behaviour on Eph 5:1-2a, 'Therefore, as dearly loved children, live a life of love, just as Christ loved us.' (Our school's Principle for Living.)

Teachers will encourage students to demonstrate love towards others in a variety of ways eg sharing, kind words, gentle (appropriate) forms of touch (eg high 5, handshake, pat on the back), giving time etc.

Students will be rewarded for showing a loving attitude towards others through classroom rewards, praise and certificates.

When a student is behaving in an 'unloving' manner, he/she will be referred to the school's 'Principle for Living' and encouraged to reflect on what Jesus' example would have been in that situation.

Previous school 'rules' will be referred to as 'what we do at our school' to describe the fact that we do them to keep ourselves and others safe and to show respect to others eg We walk in the hallway to keep others safe; We do not wear shoes inside as a sign of respect for our environment and our cleaner.

When a child is consistently misbehaving the following will occur:

1. The teacher will use the principles of Incredible Years Programme eg getting alongside the child, finding common ground, positive reinforcement that is meaningful for the child, reminding them of expectations and routines, encouraging good behaviour of other children, using non-verbal cues, get them to re-engage giving them the required behaviour expectations.
2. The child will be redirected and reminded of the consequences of continuing in the negative manner.
3. The child will be put into time-out for 5 minutes. The space used for time-out must be one in which the child can freely leave. The child cannot be left alone in a room with the door closed or locked, or be made to believe that they must not or cannot exit the space.
4. The child will be asked to reflect on what they have done and what they should have done. If they have hurt others, they will apologise/ask for forgiveness from them. The child will be reminded about the school values and asked to consider which ones we need to remember in that situation.
5. If it continues the child will be removed to the Team Leader's class for a longer period of time and parents are to be informed.

Date of last review: Term 2, 2022

Date of next review: Term 4, 2023

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The classroom teacher is the one who is to speak to the child about what he/she has done wrong and what he/she should have done. He/she then accompanies the student to the Team Leader's class.

The classroom teacher is to come back and collect the child after a period of time. Teina Tahī, Rua, Toru and Wha after 2-5 minutes. Teina Rima, Tuakana Tahī, Tuakana Rua remain in Team Leader's class until an arranged time. The Team Leader will have a 'pick me up' reflection talk based on our principle for living, with the child before being collected.

Parents must be informed that their child was sent to another room for time out.

If the behaviour continues, the next teacher to send the child to is Mrs Rentoul.

6. If the behaviour continues beyond this point, a meeting will be arranged with the parents to work out an Individual Behaviour Management Plan together. Note: Stand-down and exclusion may be investigated beyond this point.

The safety and well-being of other students and staff must be considered throughout the Positive Guidance process.

## **Outside of the Classroom**

If a child is not playing or interacting with others in a safe manner when outside of the classroom (where supervision is more limited than in the classroom), he/she may be given a specified place to play in which they will be supervised by one of the duty teachers. That space will be extended as the child proves their ability to control their behaviour and actions towards others.

## **Use of Corporal Punishment**

Timaru Christian School does not allow or condone corporal punishment of students. Students may not be hit, punched or struck under any circumstance.

## **Use of Restraint**

Use of physical restraint is a serious course of action that must be used only when necessary to prevent imminent harm and the person using restraint reasonably believes there is no other option in the circumstances to prevent the harm.

- The classroom teacher will first employ de-escalation techniques to minimise or eliminate negative behaviour.
- If de-escalation does not work, he/she will take the remainder of the class to another teaching space.
- The teacher will ask the principal or deputy principal to intervene when physical restraint is considered necessary i.e. when the child or those around him/her are in imminent danger of injury or harm.
- The principal and deputy principal must be trained in the use of physical restraint.
- If a child needs to be removed from a space, the principal or deputy principal who can carry the child out of the classroom to a quieter space.

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They must explain clearly to the child that they can walk out or be carried out beforehand and, if they are carried, they must be carried in such a way that the child faces forward (away from the adult).

- Once the child has settled, they must no longer be restrained. If a child has been restrained, the principal and parents must be informed.
- The principal / deputy principal will check on the staff member and student involved in the restraint to ensure that they are not distressed.
- The teacher must document the events surrounding the restraint and keep in the concerns folder.
- The parents must be given a copy of the restraint report form.
- The Board will be informed about instances involving restraint.

The following restraints should be avoided:

- Physical restraint that restricts breathing, speaking or communication
- Face-down physical restraint
- Pressure points and pain holds
- Tackling, sitting, lying or kneeling on a student
- Pressure on the chest or neck
- Hyperextension (bending back) of joints
- Headlocks
- Using force to take/drag a student, who is resisting, to another location
- Restraint when moving a student from one place to another eg trying to get them into a vehicle if they are already in an escalated state.

## **Recording of Events**

When a significant event occurs eg a child is continually disobedient, acts out, hurts others, or damages property, a record of the incident will be kept in a document in the Concerns Folder on the Staff Drive. The teacher dealing with the incident will record the information. Their parents will be informed.

If a child is physically attacked, their parents are informed and told of the steps the school is taking to protect their child.

Relevant Legislation: Education and Training Act 2020

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