



## SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT POLICY

Lycée Français de la Nouvelle-Orléans upholds policies that maximize positive behaviors and empathy-building. The school strives to create a culture that minimizes and prevents conflict among students and between students and staff members. While the school's focus is on prevention, there are policies and procedures in place for when a student in crisis exhibits behaviors that threaten imminent harm to self and/or others.

Please note that Lycée Français never uses physical restraint or seclusion as a method to discipline students, or as a consequence of behavior. Physical restraint and seclusion are last resort options to ensure the safety, welfare, and security of the school's community.

### **Staff Training**

Twice annually, select staff members undergo training in *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention®*. The purpose of this training is to improve the skills of staff members to recognize the signs of conflict and employ further preventative techniques before behaviors escalate to the point that safety is a concern. In the event a student is already in crisis and is a risk to the safety of self and/or others, *only trained staff members are permitted to safely remove a student from the classroom environment into a secure location.*

### **Physical Restraint**

Lycée Français does not permit physical restraint unless all other preventative measures have been exhausted and the student's behavior becomes a threat of imminent harm to self or others. Only trained staff members are knowledgeable of safe child holds designed to minimize risk of injury and discomfort on the part of the student and the staff member. These holds are adapted according to a student's size and age. Only trained staff members are permitted to intervene with *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention®* safe child holds in instances when a student's behavior threatens imminent harm.

When trained staff members must intervene with a *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention®* safe child hold, great care is taken to ensure that

- the hold does not interfere in any way with the student's breathing or ability to communicate with others,
- the hold does not place excessive pressure on the student's back or chest in a manner that could contribute to asphyxia

- the hold is directly proportionate to the circumstances, student's size, age, and severity of behavior.

All instances in which staff members have intervened using *Nonviolent Crisis Intervention*® holds will be recorded and reported internally. For students with disabilities, instances of physical restraint will be reported to the state.

Lycée Français will never, under any circumstances, use mechanical restraints, or employ a drug or medication to control a student and restrict his/her movement.

### **Seclusion**

Lycée Français does not permit locked isolation, but may allow a student to de-escalate in a safe space under the supervision of behavior intervention staff. Lycée Français is equipped with safe spaces on each campus that are free of any dangerous objects. These spaces are comparable to other classrooms and intervention rooms in terms of ceiling height, heating, cooling, ventilation, and lighting. These spaces are appropriate according to our students' size, behavior, and chronological/developmental age. Each safe space is equipped with a window to allow observation by other school personnel.

All instances of seclusion will be recorded and reported internally. For students with disabilities, instances of seclusion will be reported to the state.