



## **Crisis Intervention & Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion**

St. Charles Parish Public Schools complies with Louisiana’s Act 479 (2025) and Bulletin 1706, Sections 540-543, to prioritize student safety and promote positive behavioral development. Each school’s guidelines for crisis intervention—including the appropriate use of seclusion and physical restraint—are outlined in this addendum to the student handbook.

### **Crisis Intervention**

The goal of crisis intervention is to prevent and minimize behavioral incidents through proactive strategies.

- Prevention: Staff ensure students’ basic needs are met in organized, predictable environments. Staff provide engaging activities, meaningful choices, and supportive relationships.
- Minimization: Staff learn each student’s triggers and early warning signs (body language, tone, engagement) to respond before behavior escalates.
- De-escalation Techniques: Staff use the following techniques to prevent a student from moving to the crisis level:
  - Stay calm, respectful, and professional.
  - Maintain personal space and non-threatening body language.
  - Redirect or ignore minor, undesired behavior.
  - Offer clear choices, reasonable limits, and allow students to express feelings verbally.
  - Focus on calming the student and maintaining dignity, not immediate compliance.

## **Crisis Intervention & Use of Physical Restraint and Seclusion**

### **Physical Restraint & Seclusion**

Every effort should be made by staff to prevent the need for using seclusion or restraint techniques. Environments should be structured and focused on positive interventions and supports to greatly reduce, and in many cases eliminate, the need to use seclusion or restraint. Physical restraint and seclusion should only be used as a last resort when a student poses an imminent risk of harm to self or others.

### **Physical Restraint**

Physical Restraint should only be used when a student’s behavior presents a threat of imminent danger of serious physical harm to self or others, and only as a last resort to protect the safety of self or others.

### **Seclusion**

Seclusion should only be used as a last resort, if and when less restrictive crisis intervention techniques such as positive behavioral supports, constructive and non-physical de-escalation, and restructuring of a student’s environment have failed to stop a student’s actions that pose an imminent risk of harm to self or others.

*Guidelines and Procedures for Crisis Intervention and Implementing Seclusion/Restraint Techniques* can be accessed on the District’s website at [wearescpps.org](http://wearescpps.org).