**Operating Policy No. 3246  
Students**

**RESTRAINT, ISOLATION AND OTHER USES OF REASONABLE FORCE**

It is the policy of Puget Sound Educational Service District (PSESD) to maintain a safe learning environment while treating all students with dignity and respect. All students enrolled in PSESD’s ReLife School, including those who have an individualized education program (IEP) or plan developed under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, will remain free from unreasonable restraint, restraint devices, isolation, and other uses of physical force. Under no circumstances will these techniques be used as a form of discipline or punishment.

This policy is intended to address students. It is not intended to prevent or limit the use of restraint or other reasonable force as necessary with adults or other youth from outside ReLife School as allowed by law.

Use of restraint, isolation, and other forms of reasonable force may be used on any student when reasonably necessary to control spontaneous behavior that poses an "imminent likelihood of serious harm" as defined by RCW 71.05.020 and Chapter 392-172A WAC. Serious harm includes physical harm to self, another or school property. Staff will closely monitor such actions to prevent harm to the student and will use the minimum amount of restraint and isolation appropriate to protect the safety of students and staff. The restraint, isolation, and other forms of reasonable force will be discontinued when the likelihood of serious harm has dissipated.

ReLife School principal or designee will develop procedures to implement this policy, including review, reporting and parent/guardian notification of incidents involving restraint or isolation as required by law.

Adopted: January 2014

Revised: May 2019

Relevant Board Governance Policies: EL 3 Transformational Relationships

Cross References: Operating Policy No. 2161 Special Education and Related Services for Eligible Students

Operating Policy No. 2162 Education of Students With Disabilities Under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Legal References: RCW 9A.16.020 Use of force — When lawful

RCW 9A.16.100 Use of force on children — Policy — Actions presumed unreasonable

RCW 28A.150.300 Corporal Punishment Prohibited - Adoption of policy

RCW 28A.155.210 Use of restraint or isolation — Requirement for procedures to notify parent or guardian.

RCW 28A.600.485 - Restraint of students with individualized education programs or plans developed under section 504 of the rehabilitation act of 1973—Procedures—Definitions. [as amended by SHB 1240]

RCW 70.96B.010 - Definitions

Chapter 392-172A WAC – Rules for the provision of special education

WAC 392-400-235 Discipline — Conditions and limitations