

# Beehive Academy Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI) Policy

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## I. Purpose and Legal Authority

Beehive Academy is committed to maintaining a safe, supportive learning environment through positive behavior supports and the use of least restrictive interventions. Emergency Safety Interventions (ESIs) are used only when a student presents an immediate danger of serious physical harm to self or others and when less restrictive interventions have been ineffective or are unsafe.

This policy is adopted in accordance with Utah Code §53G-8-301, Utah Code §53G-8-203, and Utah Administrative Rule R277-608, and aligns with the Utah State Board of Education Emergency Safety Intervention Policy and Procedures Checklist (Updated December 2025).

ESIs shall never be used as discipline, punishment, coercion, retaliation, or for staff convenience.

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## II. Definitions

For purposes of this policy, Beehive Academy adopts the definitions contained in Utah Code and Administrative Rule R277-608, including but not limited to: Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI); Immediate Danger; Physical Restraint; Physical Escort; Seclusion; Mechanical Restraint; Chemical Restraint; Corporal Punishment; Emergency Safety Intervention Committee; Foundational Behavior Support Training; and Comprehensive Emergency Safety Intervention Training.

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## III. Foundational Behavior Supports

1. The principal shall work with school employees, patrons, and students to provide positive behavior expectations and supports consistent with Board policies.
2. Individual instructors are responsible for maintaining a positive learning environment in classrooms and extracurricular settings.

3. All staff members will assist in maintaining positive behavior expectations in common areas.

**4. Staff shall employ de-escalation strategies and other less restrictive interventions prior to considering an Emergency Safety Intervention whenever safely possible.**

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## **IV. Authorized Personnel and Training**

All school employees who supervise students or may assist in managing student behavior shall complete Foundational Behavior Support Training within required timelines and biennially thereafter.

Only key identified school employees who have completed Comprehensive Emergency Safety Intervention (ESI) Training may implement physical restraint or seclusion. Key identified employees shall be designated annually by school administration.

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## **V. Conditions for Use of Emergency Safety Interventions**

An Emergency Safety Intervention may be used only when:

- A student presents an immediate danger of serious physical harm to self or others;
  - Less restrictive interventions have been attempted or are not safe or effective; and
  - The intervention is necessary to maintain safety.
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## **VI. Physical Restraint**

### **A. Permitted Use**

A school employee may use reasonable and necessary physical restraint only:

- to protect the student or another person from serious physical harm;
- to take possession of a weapon or other dangerous object; or
- to stop the student from destroying property.

**Physical restraint may also be used in self-defense or to remove a violent student from a situation when physical safety is at risk, consistent with Utah Code §53G-8-301(4).**

**A physical escort shall be attempted prior to physical restraint whenever feasible.**

## **B. Prohibited Practices**

The following restraints are prohibited:

- prone (face-down) restraint;
- supine (face-up) restraint;
- physical restraint that obstructs breathing or adversely affects a student's primary mode of communication;
- mechanical restraint, except protective or legally required devices;
- chemical restraint, except as prescribed and documented in an approved health care plan.

**Physical restraint may not be used as discipline or punishment.**

## **C. Duration and Monitoring**

**Physical restraint shall be used for the minimum time necessary to ensure safety and must be terminated immediately when the student is no longer an immediate danger or is in severe distress.**

**Physical restraint may not exceed the shortest of the following: the duration permitted by training, 30 minutes, or the point at which law enforcement intervenes.**

**Release criteria shall be implemented and documented.**

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## **VII. Seclusion**

A school employee may place a student in seclusion only when the student presents an immediate danger of serious physical harm to self or others.

**Seclusion may only be used with students in grade 1 or higher.**

**Less restrictive interventions must have been attempted or deemed unsafe or ineffective.**

The following conditions must be met:

- any door remains unlocked;
- the student is continuously observed by trained personnel;
- the minimum time necessary is used;
- seclusion does not exceed 30 minutes.

**Seclusion may not be used as a disciplinary practice, behavioral intervention, for coercion or retaliation, due to inadequate staffing, or for staff convenience.**

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## **VIII. Students with Disabilities**

Use of Emergency Safety Interventions for students with disabilities shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws.

**Emergency Safety Interventions may not be written into an IEP or Section 504 Plan as a planned intervention unless:**

- **Less restrictive interventions have been attempted;**
  - **A Functional Behavior Assessment (FBA) has been conducted;**
  - **A positive behavior intervention plan based on data has been implemented; and**
  - **Use is consistent with IDEA, Section 504, Utah Code, and administrative rule.**
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## **IX. Parent Notification and Debriefing**

**Parents and school administration shall be notified immediately and no later than 15 minutes following any use of physical restraint or seclusion.**

**All notifications shall be documented in the Student Information System (SIS).**

**Within 24 hours of the use of an Emergency Safety Intervention, parents shall be notified of their right to request documentation.**

**Parents may request a meeting to debrief the incident with school staff and administration.**

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## **X. Documentation and Reporting**

The school shall collect, maintain, and periodically review documentation related to the use of Emergency Safety Interventions.

**Documentation shall include:**

- **Duration of the intervention;**
- **Stated purpose for the intervention;**
- **Alternative interventions attempted;**
- **Release criteria used; and**
- **Non-identifying staff training status.**

**Restraint shall be provided in the school SIS system**

**Emergency Safety Intervention data shall be reported annually to the Utah State Board of Education as required by law.**

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## **XI. Emergency Safety Intervention Committee**

The school shall establish an Emergency Safety Intervention Committee.

**The committee shall include at least:**

- **One administrator;**
- **One licensed educator with behavior support and ESI training;**
- **One parent or guardian of an enrolled student; and**
- **One additional licensed educator.**

**The committee shall monitor ESI use, review documentation, recommend professional development, develop dispute resolution procedures, and ensure compliance with reporting requirements.**

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## **XII. Corporal Punishment**

**Corporal punishment is strictly prohibited. Any violation shall result in disciplinary action and referral as required by law.**

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## **XIII. Violations**

**Any violation of Utah Code §53G-8-301 or this policy constitutes unlawful detention and may result in referral to law enforcement, the Utah Professional Practices Advisory Commission (UPPAC), administrative discipline, and corrective training.**