

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to demonstrate Athlos Academy's dedicated compliance with state law in enforcing a strict prohibition of corporeal punishment as a disciplinary method.

## II. POLICY

A. The State of Minnesota prohibits corporeal punishment.

1. 1. In lieu of physical discipline, teachers will follow the school's disciplinary policies and procedures to appropriately redirect or reprimand a student's unwanted behavior.

B. School personnel such as the Lead School Administrator, teachers, or school bus drivers, may use reasonable force when it is necessary under the circumstances to correct or restrain a student or prevent bodily harm or death to another.

1. Reasonable force may not include:

a. Requiring a child to assume and maintain a specified physical position activity, or posture that induces physical pain;

b. Totally or partially restricting a child's senses as punishment;

c. Denying or restricting a child's access to equipment and devices such as walkers, wheel chairs, hearing aids and communication boards that facilitate the child's functioning except when temporarily removing the equipment or device needed to prevent injury to the child or others or serious damage to the equipment or device, in which case the equipment or device shall be returned to the child as soon as possible.

d. Interacting with a child in a manner that constitutes sexual abuse, neglect, or physical abuse under Minn. Stat. § 626.556.

## **Title Heading for Policy/Form/Document**

[Policy No. or Subtitle - delete line if not needed]

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- e. Physical holding (as defined in Minn. Stat. § 125A.0941) that restricts or impairs a child's ability to breath, restricts or impairs a child's ability to communicate distress, places pressure or weight on a child's head, throat, neck, chest, lungs, sternum, diaphragm, back, or abdomen, or results in straddling a child's torso;
- f. Withholding regularly scheduled meals or water; and/or
- g. Denying a child access to toilet facilities.

C. School personnel who violate the provisions of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action as appropriate.

**Legal References:**

[Minn. Stat. § 121A.58](#)

**Related Documents:**

[Discipline Policy 5502](#)