

Student Name _____

Placement Date: _____



STUDENT SAFETY POLICY

Impact Academy is a private company that contracts with local school districts to provide special education services on their behalf. It is committed to providing a safe environment for all its students and staff, as well as all visitors, including, but not limited to, student family members, school district representatives, mental health/social workers & related individuals, during all hours of operation.

Impact Academy recognizes there are times of health crises or when students become unsafe, presenting a risk of escape or harm to themselves and/or others. To maintain a safe environment at all times, **Impact Academy** facilities are equipped with approved sanitary items & inventory to keep frequently trafficked areas & surfaces clean and safe; while our personnel are specially trained to intervene with students during unsafe conditions. Most crisis interventions are verbal de-escalation techniques aimed at helping students remain calm and in control of their own bodies; however, there are times when students resist verbal de-escalation attempts and become physically violent towards self and/or others. In such instances, the facilitation of **Physical Hold/Restraint Techniques** are employed in order to preserve the highest level of protection necessary to maintain a safe atmosphere. **Ohio Revised Code 3319.41** states

"Persons employed or engaged as teachers, principals or administrators in a school, whether public or private, and noncertified school employees and school bus drivers may, within the scope of their employment, use and apply such amount of force and restraint as is reasonable and necessary to quell a disturbance threatening physical injury to others; to obtain possession of weapons or other dangerous objects upon the person or within the control of the pupil for the purpose of self-defense or for the protections of persons or property."

All **Impact Academy** staff members are regularly trained in health/sanitation practices, as well as exercising effective verbal de-escalation strategies; these methods are highly effectual in maintaining a sanitary milieu, and decreasing physically threatening situations, and are enacted to lower the probability of illness outbreaks and unsafe situations occurring again, respectively. All personnel are also annually certified in physical hold/restraint techniques, only ever used to prevent students from being physically unsafe when they are presenting a risk of escape and/or harm towards self or others; and in accordance with OH Governor Ted Strickland's ***Executive Order 2009-13S*** from August 3, 2009. Use of physical hold/restraint techniques are a "last resort" strategy, when all other de-escalation attempts, verbal and otherwise, have been exhausted by **Impact Academy** staff. In addition, they are only implemented to assist students in attaining a safe physical position, where they can safely recuperate from their unsafe condition with no further threat(s) of violence. They are never used to compensate for lack of sufficient staff or adequate programming, as a substitute for treatment(s), as a means of punishment/discipline, or as a matter of convenience, coercion or control, forced compliance, or retaliation.

I have read the above Student Safety Policy and authorize the implementation of the Student Safety Policy by **Impact Academy** staff members, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code 3319.41.

Parent/Legal Guardian

Date

Impact Academy Representative

Date