



Policy No: 7.1

APPLEFORD SCHOOL
PHYSICAL CONTACT POLICY
(Information for pupils)

This policy applies to the whole school, including boarding

At Appleford boyfriends / girlfriends are permitted only to hold hands. They should not hug, kiss, or have any other physical contact. We understand that this is a natural part of growing up, however this is a school rule. This position will be supported through PSHE lessons and tutorial support. In the event of any pupil / pupil relationships, the Head of Pastoral Care or the pupil's Head of Year will inform parents of this relationship, without identifying other specific children. It is the school's view that relationships between post 16 and under 16 pupils are inappropriate. Should such an issue occur, we will contact parents and ask them to support the school in precluding such relationships.

Should any form of perceived inappropriate physical contact be witnessed / reported to a member of staff, the following action will be taken. The staff member will:

- Log it on CPOMS (Central Behaviour Database)
- Report to the relevant Houseparent / Tutor / Designated Safeguarding Lead
- Houseparent / Tutor to discuss with DSL before any action is taken if required
- Parents will be informed.

Sexual Activity

We do not allow sexual activity to take place between pupils such activity is illegal under the age of 16. Therefore any act that involves more than one pupil is not allowed (including mutual or public masturbation). Any incident will be reported to the DSL to be investigated further. Local Authorities may be involved.

Monitoring and Review:

- This policy will be subject to continuous monitoring, refinement and audit by the Headmaster.
- The Headmaster and Proprietor undertake a formal annual review of this policy for the purpose of monitoring and of the efficiency with which the related duties have been discharged, by no later than one year from the date shown below, or earlier if significant changes to the systems and arrangements take place, or if legislation, regulatory requirements or best practice guidelines so require.

Signed:

Dr Peter Gardner
Proprietor

Mr David King
Headmaster

Date: December 2020

Review: December 2021

Appleford School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. It is our aim that all pupils fulfill their potential.

Addendum to Physical Contact Policy No: 7.1

During the period of Covid-19 restrictions and in line with Government guidance/directive, physical contact of any personal nature between pupils is to be proscribed. This includes hugging of a purely friendly nature.

Physical contact emanating from sports events / PE lessons **does not** fall within this directive.

As advice from the Department for Education/Public Health England changes, the School will adjust this policy accordingly.