

Seclusion and Restraint

Each of these methods is at the extreme end of a continuum that should be utilized as part of a process of intervention when:

- It is part of a crisis plan for an individual, facility or school
- All efforts at prevention or de-escalation of the problem have been exhausted
- The safety of the child or others in the environment is in imminent danger
- An individual is trained and certified in the use of restraint
- A seclusion environment meets criteria established by the agency or organization
- Documentation is part of the process of using seclusion and restraint
- Parent notification within 24 hours is provided and part of the process

The Secretary of the US Dept of Education, Arne Duncan, stated in a letter to chief state school officers that he found Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports , “. . . is an important preventative approach that can increase the capacity of the school staff to support children with the most complex behavioral needs, thus reducing the instances that require intensive interventions.”

Three of the many programs for restraint training that have been used in Kentucky include. Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI), Safe Crisis Management (SCM), Safe Physical Management (SCM). No company is recognized as the most desirable as each have their own approach to the process. Most programs begin with training designed to prevent and de-escalate any conflict. Any program that does not focus on prevention first should be avoided.

Decisions whether to train staff in any approach or which company to use should be made by the each organization itself based upon their needs and philosophy.