

PROHIBITION OF USE OF AVERSIVE INTERVENTIONS

The South Colonie Central School District is prohibited from using aversive interventions to reduce or eliminate maladaptive behaviors of a student. Only those students whose Individualized Education Programs (IEP) include a recommendation for aversive interventions as of June 30, 2009 may be granted a child-specific exception to the prohibition on the use of aversive interventions in each subsequent school year after June 30, 2009, unless the student's IEP is revised to no longer include such exception. No child-specific exception shall be granted for a pre-school student.

Aversive intervention means an intervention that is intended to induce pain or discomfort to a student for the purpose of eliminating or reducing maladaptive behaviors, including as follows:

1. contingent application of noxious, painful, intrusive stimuli or activities;
2. any form of noxious, painful or intrusive spray, inhalant or tastes;
3. contingent food programs that include the denial or delay of the provision of meals or intentionally altering staple food or drink in order to make it distasteful;
4. movement limitation used as a punishment, including but not limited to helmets and mechanical restraint devices; or
5. other stimuli or actions similar to the interventions described above.

The term does not include such interventions as voice control, limited to loud, firm commands; time-limited ignoring of a specific behavior; token fines as part of a token economy system; brief physical prompts to interrupt or prevent a specific behavior; interventions medically necessary for the treatment or protection of the student; or other similar interventions.

Reference: 8 NYCRR §§ 19.5(b) and 200.22.

Adopted: November 3, 2009

Reviewed: September 12, 2017