

The use of seclusion as a **last resort** is a safety tool intended to protect both students and staff when there is an imminent risk of harm to the student or others. Staff are trained to implement a continuum of proactive and responsive crisis interventions prior to considering seclusion, including de-escalation strategies, non-restrictive crisis intervention techniques, and the use of protective blocking strategies such as Ukeru. These approaches are designed to reduce escalation, maintain student dignity, and support regulation while prioritizing safety. Seclusion is only considered when other interventions have been attempted or are deemed insufficient to address an imminent danger to themselves or others.

Staff receive **annual training** on the appropriate use of seclusion and alternative interventions to ensure practices align with safety standards, legal requirements, and trauma-informed principles. When seclusion is used, it is applied solely to maintain safety and is never a punitive measure. While every effort is made to prevent situations from reaching this level, there are times when seclusion is necessary as a last resort to protect the student and others from harm. In these instances, staff act with care, professionalism, and respect, with the goal of stabilizing the situation and returning the student to a safe and supportive learning environment as soon as possible.

Thank you,

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AJ Boehmer

Pronouns: they/them; he/him

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