



## **Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Protocol**

### Nonviolent Crisis Intervention

The Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) was established in 1980 to address the need to manage disruptive and assaultive behavior in a safe, respectful, and non-invasive manner. CPI designed a management system known as Nonviolent Crisis Intervention to meet this need. Nonviolent Crisis Intervention focuses on preventative and team intervention techniques that equip staff to respond appropriately and effectively in crisis situations.

Since its establishment, millions of people in diverse fields, including education, healthcare, mental health, and social welfare, have been trained in CPI's Nonviolent Crisis Intervention program. Schools across the nation have successfully implemented Nonviolent Crisis Intervention training to reduce classroom incidents, create behavioral and crisis response plans, and ensure a safe learning environment for teachers and students. The use of CPI's Nonviolent Crisis Intervention, including the use of prone containment (a restrictive intervention procedure that employs a device, material, or objects that simultaneously immobilizes all four extremities), has been expressly sanctioned by the Orange County Department of Education.

New Vista School staff is trained in Nonviolent Crisis Intervention, including prone containment, and receive regular training updates during the year as part of their professional development. Staff members are taught: (a) How to recognize the early warning signs that a person's behavior might escalate; (b) How to intervene effectively before a person's behavior becomes dangerous; and (c) How to manage the violence when a person is acting out of control.

### Interventions for Escalating and/or Violent Behavior

The following is a sequence of nonviolent crisis intervention strategies that may be used to respond to escalating and/or violent situations. Keep in mind that each episode is unique and it may not be practical to utilize each strategy below:

1. Teachers who notice a change in student behavior or an increase in anxiety will respond with an empathic and nonjudgmental approach. This may include encouragement, positive reinforcement and/or active listening.
2. If the behavior becomes belligerent or aggressive, teachers will attempt to take control of the disruptive behavior by setting limits with the student.
3. When a student does not respond to limit-setting, the student may be removed from the classroom and/or otherwise separated from the other students. In some cases, the student may be sent to the office. If the student refuses to move and there is an immediate threat to anyone, the student may physically be removed from the area.
4. If the belligerent or aggressive behavior escalates into a physical acting-out episode, staff members may respond using CPI recommended control and restraint techniques, such as prone containment, to safely manage the student during the episode.



5. As soon as the physical threat is gone, the student will be released from the restraint technique. The student will be encouraged to reflect on the sequence of events that led to the episode and instructed on alternate, positive choices that the student could have made instead.
6. Parents will be notified when a physical acting-out episode requires the use of restraint and control techniques, and the incident may be documented by New Vista School staff. Physical acting-out episodes may result in consequences (i.e. behavior contract, suspension, etc.) for the student and a meeting between the parent(s) and administrators. Repeated episodes of violence may result in disciplinary action up to and including dismissal from New Vista School.

The Nonviolent Crisis Intervention program focuses on crisis prevention and physical intervention procedures that provide staff with the skills and confidence to safely manage an emergency situation. Physical intervention is used as a last resort when other options have been unsuccessful.

New Vista School's goal is to create a safe and nurturing environment where every student can learn and succeed. Nonviolent Crisis Intervention makes it possible for staff to build a culture of respect, service, safety, and security.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Tyler Lowenthal, our CPI Trainer, at (949) 455-1270 or email him at [tlowenthal@newvistaschool.org](mailto:tlowenthal@newvistaschool.org).

By signing below you acknowledge receipt of this Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Protocol, and understand and agree that if necessary, these measures, including prone containment, may be implemented with your child. Please note that while we appreciate your signature for our records, the lack of your signature will not be deemed as lack of authorization. By sending your child to New Vista School, you understand and agree, regardless of your signature on this form, that your child may be subject to the procedures described herein.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

On \_\_\_\_\_, 2018, I provided \_\_\_\_\_ [parent]  
with New Vista School's Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Protocol.

Administrator Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_