



## PROCEDURE S-5

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### **SUBJECT: SAFETY RESTRAINTS**

Legal references: CMVSS (Canadian Motor Vehicle Safety Standards) 213.3 and 213.5

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Purpose: To establish a set of procedures for proper safety restraint use.

If a child has a special need (such as a medical condition that does not allow your child to use a conventional Child Safety Seat), a Bus Safety Plan, etc. the Principal or designate may choose to utilize an alternative child restraint system that complies with federal safety standards. These restraints would meet federal standards for governing alternate restraints for children with special needs.

Procedures:

1. The Ministry of Transportation will establish who requires the use of a safety restraint
2. The School Board will provide a safety restraint to all eligible students.
3. The School Bus Company shall ensure the safety restraint is installed properly as required by manufacturer's specifications.
4. School Bus Drivers, Monitors/EA's, Parents or Guardians, and School Staff work cooperatively together to ensure that the student is properly secured in the safety restraint. It is, by law, the School Bus Driver's responsibility to ensure the student is secured properly.

Examples of safety restraints currently being used:

Lap Belt

- Generally used by children with developmental disabilities (e.g., autism)
- Can be used in conjunction with a Behaviour Management Plan with or without a buckle guard as appropriate.

## E-Z-On Vest



- Generally used by children with developmental disabilities (e.g., autism)
- Child must be at least 2 years of age and weigh 20-168 lbs.

You do not need to carry a doctor's note with you when transporting your child with special needs. Each child restraint will bear a National Safety Mark that indicates it meets all federal safety standards.

Note: When purchasing an E-Z-On Vest (regular or modified), you will receive a letter from the manufacturer. This letter must be carried at all times to prove that the vest meets federal standards, as the vest will not have a National Safety Mark.

As is the current practice, it is expected that the child's occupational/physiotherapist, therapist or other health care provider would be responsible for teaching Parents, Guardians or Caregivers how to use these types of restraints.