Immobilisation (physical intervention) is not part of an appropriate behaviour guidance approach. Regulation 56 of the Education (Early Childhood Services) Regulations 2008 explicitly prohibits the use of immobilization of children in early education settings.

Kaiako should only consider using physical intervention as a last resort, where harm to the child or someone else is imminent, and no other options are available to avoid the harm.

This applies to any situation, including attempts to manage behaviour. It will only be used in exceptional circumstances, where there is immediate and serious risk to the safety of the child or others, and only for as long as is absolutely necessary to prevent harm. To be clear, control may be used in specific and urgent situations, e.g. to stop a young child running onto the road or to prevent a child hurting her or himself or another child. This means no child can be physically restrained or confined in a way that restricts their movement or freedom as a mode of behaviour management. Instead, kaiako are expected to use positive guidance and other strategies that encourage and support children's behaviour.

It may also refer to management used to ensure that limits and boundaries set for the safety of children are met, e.g. control of access beyond the education setting.