Young People missing from home process flowchart

Identify child/young person is missing

Parents/carer/responsible adult identify time by which the child should be at the address

Parents/carer/responsible adult should make enquiries to locate the missing young person with relatives/friends

This should include searches of the residence and local area if the child or young person is not located

Report to police – Central Referral Unit 0345 456 4564 (emergency 999)

Parents/carer/responsible adult should telephone police with details of the missing person

Details required: child's name/DOB/where, when and who missing with/what child was last wearing/description of young person/recent photo/medical history/time and location last seen/circumstances of going missing/details of friends and associates.

Officers conduct a risk-assessment forming the basis for resulting proportionate actions

Enquiries are then on-going

Sharing of information between the police, parents and other agencies as appropriate

Young person is located or returns to home address

When a missing child is located by family or friends etc, it is their responsibility to return the child to the home address

Where a risk is present, a police officer may accompany the family or the police may be requested to collect and return the child/young person to the place of residence only if it is safe to do so. Parents must inform the police when a child returns of their own accord.

The police should conduct an interview known as Safe and Well Check on young person's return to establish the young person's well-being and safety, and to establish whether they were the victim of crime or abuse whilst missing.

If appropriate, police should refer child or young person to Children's Services via normal safeguarding/child protection channels. County Council Contact Centre. Tel: 0345 0451362

Consider the benefit of parenting support. Police can contact Parenting Coordinators direct to identify the appropriate support.



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'Independent' person to carry out a **Return Interview and Assessment of Need** within 72 hours of young person's return.

Consider if the parent/s would benefit from some further support during and following the interview. Parenting Co-ordinators can be contacted to identify the appropriate support.

Information established from interview supporting assessment of need, using the CAF (check whether CAF already exists.) Lead professional to be appointed.

Young person offered relevant support by either statutory or voluntary services depending on what is available in the local area, CAF to be updated regularly. If CAF identifies a need for parenting support, parents to be offered relevant support.

In some cases, specialist assessment may be required should it appear that the child or young person has complex needs. Parenting support should also be considered at this stage and further assessment may also be required if the parent/s have specialist needs, in order that the child or young person can be supported effectively.