

MINUTE BRIEFING

New Updated CHILDREN WHO RUN AWAY OR GO MISSING FROM HOME OR CARE STRATEGY

If a young person placed in Knowsley by another responsible authority has 3 missing in 90 days and there is no evidence the child is at risk of significant harm, then the Shield social worker will contact the responsible authorities' social worker to establish what action is being taken to assess and respond to presenting risks. If 9 missing, then the responsible authorities Assistant Director will be notified. The Strategy can be found under the Missing Children link at the following:

http://www.knowsleyscb.org.uk/pr ofessionals

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Knowsley commission Catch 22 to complete return interviews. Other Local Authorities can commission Catch 22 via Knowsley to complete their returns. If a Knowsley young person is placed outside of the borough there is guidance on what Catch 22 will do to ensure the return is

completed including other methods of

communication which can be utilised.

When a child or young person is identified as not being at a location they are expected to be, the reporting individual must take proactive steps to trace the child's whereabouts prior to contacting the police. The procedure has been updated on what checks are required.

Changes within the procedure:

- Whose responsibilities it is to chair strategy, intervention and escalation meetings
- When you require an intervention or escalation meeting
- •Each meeting has a confidential section at the start of an intervention and escalation meeting to share sensitive information
- •Process and responsibilities for young people placed in Knowsley and CLA placed in other boroughs
- Appendices includes updated templates and orms

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If there is no evidence that the child is at risk of significant harm then an intervention meeting should be held when there have been 3 missing episodes in 90 days and chaired by an allocated lead practitioner or team manager. If it is not an open case to Family First or CSC then the Shield social worker will chair the intervention meeting.

The Shield Missing From Home Coordinator should be invited to the intervention and escalation meetings however there needs to be a confidential section at the start of the meeting for police and other agencies to share information that cannot be disclosed in front of the young person and their parent/carers. Templates have been changed to ensure a confidential section and to set a review date if ongoing concerns.

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A chair from the Quality Assurance Unit will chair an escalation meeting for a Knowsley CLA (Children Looked After). If a child is open to Children's Social Care on a Child in Need or Child Protection Plan then consultation is required with QAU to discuss if an escalation meeting is required.

For more information regarding 7 minute briefings, please email sarah.herron@knowsley.gov.uk Knowsley Safeguarding Children Board, 2nd Floor, Nutgrove Villa, Westmorland Road, Huyton L36 6GA Tel: 0151 443 3859 www.knowsleyscb.org.uk