



## Safeguarding response to children who go missing from education

### **Child Missing in Education Procedure**

The college monitors attendance daily. If after three consecutive days of absence parents / carers have not contacted the college a home visit will take place.

If the child does not attend college for the seven days after the home visit and parents /carers are not communicating with the college then a report will be made to the Local Authority Child Missing Education Team.

### **Specific Safeguarding Issues Children Missing Education (CME) (safeguard response to children who go missing from education)**

All children, regardless of their circumstances, are entitled to a good education which will help them shape their own futures. Children missing education (CME) are at significant risk of underachieving, being victims of abuse, and becoming NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) later on in life. Certain groups of children are more likely to be affected by the factors listed above and include:

Pupils at risk of harm/neglect

Children who have been the subject of a Child Protection Plan

Refugees and asylum seekers

Gypsy, Roma and travelling families

Children who have experienced domestic violence or other adverse family circumstances

Children with special educational needs

Children who have had attendance difficulties or cease to attend school

Families of armed forces

Missing children/runaways

Children and young people supervised by the Youth Justice System Parents Responsibilities

We recognise that a child going missing from education is a potential indicator of abuse or neglect. We will follow the West Midlands Safeguarding Procedures as required by the Worcestershire Safeguarding Children Partnership (WSCP) and take account of guidance issued by the Department for Education (DfE). These procedures can be viewed at <http://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/> Staff are made aware of these procedures at induction and through our Safeguard response to children who go missing from education document. If parents wish to view this it is in our Safeguarding policy appendix 3.

We will make every attempt to obtain more than one emergency contact number for each child registered at the school to ensure we are able to make contact with a responsible adult when a child missing education is also identified as a welfare and/or safeguarding concern. Parents and carers should always ensure that we have up to date contact numbers. Ideally, we should have up to five individuals we can contact in the event of an unexplained absence or emergency. It is a parental responsibility to provide this information.

We will ensure that we inform the local authority when removing a child from the school role at standard and non-standard transition points in line with the DfE guidance on Children Missing Education.

We will ensure that we follow these procedures for dealing with children that go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect, including sexual exploitation, and to help prevent the risks of their going missing in future.

We will ensure that we report children missing education to the LA CME officer, in line with statutory requirements. To report a child missing education please contact [primecme@babcockinternational.com](mailto:primecme@babcockinternational.com) or call 01905 678140.

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