

Missing/absence episode

- All reasonable steps should be taken by parent/carer/responsible adult/care providers/schools to locate the child prior to making a report to the police. – contact details at bottom of page.

Looked after children/ child open to social care including other Local Authority

- For looked after children if the individual is located without having made contact with the police, this absence should be recorded by the care provider in order to inform safeguarding plans.
- The care provider should record any information gained on the whereabouts of the individual whilst absent, and this should be shared as appropriate with the police.

Child **not** an open case to social care

- Where a child is not an 'open' case for social care the [threshold tool](#) should be consulted and an appropriate enquiry made according to level.
- For example Page 8 Behaviours; Disappears or is missing from home for long periods is a level 4 indicator and a [MASH](#) enquiry should be made.
- 0345 155 1071

- Where the child remains **missing/absent** and it is felt that he/she may be at risk of harm or increased risk of harm then a report should be made to the police. The police will then update their risk assessment and police response.

Child located following call to police:

- If the police did not find the child – inform them
- Police will complete a safe well check.

Return home interview

Incidences of missing and absence reported to the police will automatically trigger the return home interview process.

Responsibility for completing these lies with;

- Social care open case – coordination by allocated social worker
- Other young people – REACH team

Police contacts:

- **101** - Non emergency and general enquiries.
- **999** - Emergency – If life is threatened, if people are injured, if offenders are nearby, if immediate action is required.
- **18000** - Emergency Minicom/Textphone number for Deaf/hard of hearing and speech impaired.