Flow chart for children looked after who go missing from care

LSCP
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Local Authority residential children's home, or Children's Foster Carer reports unauthorised absence to:

- The child's Social Worker or if unavailable

- The relevant duty Social Worker for the team or

- The emergency duty team (EDT) when out of the normal working hours

Police do not record or manage unauthorised absences

Residential children's home/foster carer to continually monitor cases of unauthorised absence

If child not returned at 6 hours maximum,

Residential children's home/foster carer **must** consider reporting to Police as missing person report or earlier if risk seen as more imminent

Local Authority residential children's home/Foster Carer report child **MISSING** to the Police

Police create a Police Log (NSPIS) and make initial Risk Assessments – High, Medium or Low

Missing person record (Compact) created after two hours and sent to LCC Business Support Office

Police conduct urgent enquiries according to circumstances and risk assessment

Establish what enquiries and searches have been completed prior to reporting.

- Search own home and surrounds (if not done prior to report)

- Speak to other family members or friends

- Inform Social Worker or Key Worker if one's identified

Missing person returns to residence, or

If missing person is located; it is the responsibility of the residential staff or foster carers to return the child or young person; however the Police will assist in certain circumstances

Residential staff to inform Police, Child's Social worker and Parent/ Guardian

(if applicable)

Missing Person Record (COMPACT) closed by Police. Police will attend in all cases to conduct a safe and well check. Multi-Agency Missing Record updated by Police with missing information from Missing Person Record (COMPACT) and Police Log (NSPIS)

Return interview conducted within 72 hours of return by an independent person who is trained to carry out these interviews. Completed on Local Authority recording system (Mosaic). Local Authority notified (through business support) and shared with Police by saving in the shared folder.