

## MISSING CHILDREN

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At Stepping Stones Kids Club we are always alert to the possibility that children can go missing during sessions. To minimise the risk of this happening staff will carry out periodic head counts.

If a child cannot be located, the following steps will be taken:

- All staff will be informed that the child is missing.
- Staff will conduct a thorough search of the premises and surrounding area.
- After 10 minutes the police will be informed. The manager will then contact the child's parents or carers.
- Staff will continue to search for the child whilst waiting for the police and parents to arrive. We will maintain as normal a routine as possible for the rest of the children at Kids Club.
- The manager will liaise with the police and the child's parent or carer.

The incident will be recorded in the Incident Log and/or CPOMS (Child Protection Online Management System). A review will be conducted regarding this and any other related incidents along with relevant policies and procedures. We will identify and implement any changes as necessary.

If the police or Social Care were involved in the incident, we will also inform Ofsted.

This policy was adopted by: Stepping Stones Kids Club

Date: March 2023

To be reviewed: March 2024

Written in accordance with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (2021): Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements: Information for parents and carers [3.72]