Appendix B

Reporting Children who Run Away/Go Missing from Home or Care

Foster Carer/Residential Staff aware child is “missing from care” and MUST decide upon the child’s category of absence. Foster Carers/Residential Staff will phone child’s social worker/EDT for advice and direction.

Parent/carer/other person aware child is missing from home. Contact EDT (788080) for advice and direction.

Unauthorised Absent

Delay for agreed period (maximum 6 hours)

Parents, carers, foster carers/residential staff should make enquiries to locate the missing person with relatives/friends. This should include searches of the residence and local area.

Then telephone police with details of the missing person:
Details Required
- Child’s name
- D.O.B.
- Where, when who missing with?
- What child last wearing
- Description of child
- Recent photo
- Medical History
- Legal status

All efforts to locate the child must be recorded and auditable.

Police

Police Officers to conduct a Risk Assessment which will form basis for resulting proportionate actions.

Sharing of information between the Police and Residential Staff / Foster Carers/CDT

And between Police and parents/carers when missing from home.

Residential staff/child’s Social Worker to telephone child’s parents

Foster Carer/Residential staff to telephone social worker/team manager, school, health.

Strategy Meeting called dependant on frequency and duration of missing episode.

Missing child is located or returns of own accord (Refer to Return Flowchart)