



**WEST YORKSHIRE
POLICE**

Kirklees Child Vulnerability and Exploitation
Team
Dewsbury Police station
Aldams road
Dewsbury
WF12 8AR

Children Missing from Home

Dear parent, carer, guardian,

Within Kirklees district, the police deal with an enormous number of children reported missing from home every week. Each incident is distressing and traumatic for both the child and family concerned.

The police are asking for your help in reducing the number of children reported missing from home, firstly by ensuring there are clear plans in place when your child arranges to spend time at their friend's house.

Secondly by checking if your child's friend comes to your house or stays overnight at your address, you have personally spoken to the friend's parent/carer/guardian or responsible adult to ensure they know where their child is and more importantly are in agreement with any overnight stays.

Our aim is to avoid families becoming involved in these distressing incidents and to avoid the upset of having police attending at your home address in the early hours of the morning to find a young person who has been reported missing simply because information hasn't been relayed to their parent, carer, guardian or responsible adult.

Young people do not always tell their parents where they're staying for a variety of reasons, they may have said they have permission when in fact they do not or there may have simply been a breakdown in communication.

The stress of not knowing where your child is overnight is unimaginable.

West Yorkshire Police are asking you to stay vigilant and help reduce the number of missing children with just one short phone call to the child's carer to ensure everyone is aware.

Should you need to report a missing person, please contact 101 or 999 depending on the immediacy of the situation.

On behalf of West Yorkshire Police, I thank you for your assistance with this and let us work together to keep our children safe.

Yours faithfully

Kirklees Child Vulnerability and Exploitation Team
West Yorkshire Police