

BROUGHTON JEWISH PRIMARY SCHOOL



CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION POLICY 2023

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| Author | S. Caplan July 2023 |
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| Signed by Chair of Governors | D Bondt |
| Committee Delegated | S/G BA & PD |
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Children missing from education

A child going missing from education, particularly repeatedly, can be a warning sign of a range of safeguarding issues. This might include abuse or neglect, such as child criminal exploitation, or issues such as mental health problems, substance abuse and radicalisation.

There are many circumstances where a child may become missing from education, but some children are particularly at risk. These include children who:

- Are at risk of harm or neglect
- Come from the families of service personnel
- Go missing or run away from home or care
- Cease to attend a school
- Come from new migrant families

We will follow our procedures for unauthorised absence and for dealing with children who go missing from education, particularly on repeat occasions, to help identify the risk of abuse and neglect, including criminal and sexual exploitation, and to help prevent the risks of going missing in the future.

This includes informing the local authority if a child leaves the school without a new school being named, and adhering to requirements with respect to sharing information with the local authority, when applicable, when removing a child's name from the admission register at non-standard transition points.

If a staff member suspects that a child is suffering from harm or neglect, we will follow the school's child protection procedures. If appropriate we will make an immediate referral to the local authority children's social care team, and the police, if the child is suffering or likely to suffer from harm, or in immediate danger.

Parents are regularly reminded of the importance of good communication with the School. If a child is not present on the register, with no reason having been given, a text will be sent to the parents – by 10.00am. If no reply is received by early afternoon, then a call will be made to the parent. In the unusual situation of still having had no direct contact, then other contacts (as on the Essential Information sheet) will be rung. If there are then concerns about the absence the DSL will be informed and the school's child protection procedures will be followed.