

# What to do if your child is missing...



1

Check your child is not in the house, garden or nearby spaces.

2

Try to call them or contact them on social media.

3

Check if they have taken any important things with them like money or clothing.

4

Contact friends and family to check if they know where your child is.

5

Ask friends and family to help you find them.

6

If you can't find them, call the police on 101 (999 if you think they are in danger) and tell them as much info as you can.

7

Ask the police for a log number and record this, this will help you with further updates.

8

When the police visit to take a full missing report, give them as much info as you can, including a recent photograph.

9

If you go out to look for them, take a phone so you can make and receive calls.

10

Make sure someone stays at home in case they return.

# What to do when your child returns...



1

Stay calm and tell them you're happy to have them home.

2

Call 101 to tell the police your child has returned home.

3

Reassure your child that you'll help them deal with any problems.

4

Encourage them to tell you about where they were and who they were with.

5

Listen to them and make sure they feel supported.

6

Take note of what they tell you – if they have been harmed and/or a crime has been committed, tell the police, record the crime number and seek medical help if necessary.

7

The police will visit your child to do a safe and well check.

8

An advocate will visit your child to do an independent return interview – this will be an opportunity for them to talk about any further issues and help to identify further support.

9

Talk to your child and agree what you can all do so they won't go missing again.