



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 10TH MOUNTAIN DIVISION (LIGHT INFANTRY) AND FORT DRUM
FORT DRUM, NEW YORK 13602-5000

AFDR-CG

12 July 2021

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Installation Policy Memorandum 21-04, Child Supervision Policy

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 608-10, Child Development Services, 11 May 2017.
- b. AR 608-18, Family Advocacy Program, 13 September 2011.
- c. AR 608-75, Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), 27 January 2017.
- d. Memorandum, HQ CFSC-CYS, July 2000, Subject: Out of School Child Supervision Requirements for Elementary and Middle School Children and Youth During Parental Duty Hours.
- e. New York Family Court Act, Articles 3, 7 and 10.

2. Supersession: This policy supersedes and replaces Installation Policy Memorandum 19-04, Child Supervision Policy, 17 September 2019.

3. Purpose. Ensure child safety on Fort Drum. This policy provides guidance to:

- a. Protect children from hazards.
- b. Safeguard others from risks associated with unsupervised youth, e.g., playing with matches or weapons.
- c. Minimize property damage on the installation, e.g., vandalism.
- d. Ensure proper supervision is applied.

4. Applicability: This policy applies to all Service members, Family members and Civilian personnel on or assigned to Fort Drum.

5. Policy:

- a. Violation of this policy may subject Service members to disciplinary action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or result in adverse administrative action,

proceedings before the New York State Family Court and/or termination of housing privileges by Fort Drum Mountain Community Homes.

b. Service members are responsible for the health, welfare, and safety of their minor Family member. Service members will ensure Family members comply with the provisions of this policy. The Service member's chain of command will ensure that the Service member understands his/her responsibilities under this policy.

c. In all cases, interpretation of this policy will be made in favor of the child's safety and protection.

d. No child will be left unattended under circumstances involving potential or actual risk to the child's health and safety.

e. Child supervision (no longer than 6 hours) may be provided by any person 12-14 years of age who has been designated by the parent or guardian and capable of ensuring the child's welfare and safety. Supervision (longer than 6 hours, to include overnight) may be provided by any person 15 years of age or older who has been designated by the parent or guardian and is capable of ensuring the child's welfare and safety. Other child supervisory guidelines are contained in the Age Matrix (enclosure 1).

f. Service members, Family members and Civilians will ensure their children do not fire air rifles, pellet guns, BB guns, shoot arrows, or operate motor driven planes in areas not designated for their use. Use of any type of fireworks is strictly forbidden.

g. All children left alone in quarters, regardless of age, will have access to an adult (18 years or older), designated by their parent, who is available in the event of emergencies. All children will have the adult's work, home, and emergency phone numbers, and the designated adult must be within the local area. The local area is defined as a location that is no more than one hour away from the child's location by car. Children who are not under the direct supervision of an adult should know what to do in case of an emergency (i.e., injury, fire, assault, parents not returning as expected, etc.).

h. Parents whose children require special supervision (i.e. Exceptional Family Member Program) must take appropriate steps to ensure that their children are properly supervised. In this case the Age Matrix (enclosure 1) does not apply.

6. A person is guilty of endangering the welfare of a child when:

a. A person that knowingly acts in a manner likely to cause injury, physical or mental harm to a child less than 17 years old, or condones behavior involving a substantial risk of danger.

b. Being a parent, guardian, or other person legally charged with the care or custody of a child less than 18 years old, he or she fails or refuses to exercise reasonable

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diligence in the control of such child to prevent him or her from becoming an "abused child," a "neglected child," a "juvenile delinquent," or a "person in need of supervision," as those terms are defined in Articles 3, 7 and 10 of the New York State Family Court Act.

7. The point of contact for this policy is Director, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation at (315) 772-5685.

Encl

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. H. B.", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

MILFORD H. BEAGLE, JR.
Major General, USA
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION: A

Fort Drum Age Matrix/Child Supervision Guidelines

Do's:

- ◇ Closely supervise small children while in and outside of the home (Keep harmful items out of reach)
- ◇ Ensure children are in appropriate car seats/seatbelts while in vehicles
- ◇ Ensure teenagers who babysit siblings and others have completed the CYS and Red Cross Babysitters Course (Always leave emergency numbers and identify an adult your teen can call for help)
- ◇ Designate an adult to care for your children in case of emergency

Don'ts:

- ◇ Don't ever leave children under 10 years of age home alone
- ◇ Don't ever leave children 9 years of age and under in an unattended vehicle
- ◇ Don't allow your children to play near or on busy streets
- ◇ Don't fight in front of your children
- ◇ Don't leave weapons unattended or unsecured

Updated: 11.2021

| Age of Child | Left without sitter in home | Left alone overnight | Play outside unattended | Left in car unattended | Child care for siblings | Babysit/watch unrelated children |
|--------------------------------|---|--|---|---|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Newborn through 5 years of age | No | No | No | No | No | No |
| 6—9 years of age | No | No | Yes—with immediate access (visual sight or hearing distance) to adult supervision | No | No | No |
| 10—11 years of age | Yes—with ready access to adult supervision; limit 3 hours | No | Yes—with access to adult supervision | Yes—with keys removed and parking break applied | No | No |
| 12—14 years of age | Yes—with access to adult supervision; limit 6 hours | No | Yes | Yes | Yes ** | Yes **may not babysit overnight |
| 15—18 years of age | Yes | Yes—with sponsor in local area and access to adult supervision | Yes | Yes | Yes ** | Yes ** may babysit overnight |

**Call Youth Services at 772-8675 to register your child for the CYS and Red Cross Babysitting Course



For more information contact the Fort Drum
Family Advocacy Program (FAP)
Soldier and Family Readiness Center (SFRC)

315-772-5914

www.facebook.com/FtdrumFAP and www.instagram.com/ftdrumfamilyadvocacy

