DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT GORDON
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AMIM-GOG-ZA (1FF) OCT 23 2026

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Garrison Commander's Policy Memorandum No. 19 - Supervision of Children

1. Parents and guardians are responsible for safeguarding their children. Before leaving a child unsupervised, parents and guardians must consider the child's maturity, judgment, emotional and physical capabilities, and any special needs. Age is a primary consideration but is not the sole factor in determining the level of supervision required. Children from birth through age 10 and children with disabilities must not be left unsupervised. The following are the minimum supervision requirements for parents and guardians.

2. Children through grade 5, including children who have not begun 6th grade, require direct supervision by an adult or babysitter who is at least in the ninth grade. The supervisor must remain continuously aware of the child's activities and be able to intervene immediately to prevent injury or harm. Napping children need not remain within the visual range of the supervisor but should be within a distance that affords the supervisor the ability to hear the child. Outdoor play must be supervised constantly. Children who are outdoors must be with a babysitter or in a designated area within sight of the supervisor. Supervision should be provided so that the supervisor can intervene immediately if the need arises, i.e., within reach of vision or vocal contact. Children walking between Freedom Park School and their homes are required to have direct adult supervision.

3. Children in grades 6 through 8 require monitored care. The supervisor will establish a designated area for the child and conduct regular checks on the child. The supervisor must instruct the child to notify them before changing locations. Children in grades 6 through 8 may remain alone at home during waking hours for brief periods not to exceed 2 hours. When possible, parents or guardians should contact the child periodically by telephone. Parents or guardians must provide the child with a telephone number where the parent(s) can be reached, telephone numbers for the police, fire departments and the hospital. Parents or guardians must also provide the name and telephone number of a designated adult who can immediately be available in the event of an emergency to the child.

4. Youth in grades 9 through 12 may provide self-care for periods not to exceed 12 hours, based on parental discretion and with the consideration of the youth's emotional and physical capabilities. Parents and guardians remain responsible for their children

at all times. Parents and guardians who allow an appropriately aged child to provide self-care must provide the child with a key, and telephone numbers to the police (911), fire department and hospital. Additionally, parents must provide a telephone number where the parent(s) can be reached, the expected time of return, and the name and telephone number of a designated adult who can be immediately available in the event of an emergency. The designated adult must be made aware of his/her responsibility by the parent(s). Both parents and guardians are responsible for, and must be aware of, the safety conditions of their children when they are not with them.

5. When parents use an adolescent babysitter, parents and guardians must consider the babysitter's emotional, intellectual and physical capabilities. Children in 8th grade may babysit for short periods of time, not to exceed six hours. Youth who are in 10th grade may babysit for periods not to exceed eight hours.

6. Family Members, who provide care in their own homes for children other than their own, must comply with all Army Childcare and Child Development Services regulations and policies. Adult Family members providing childcare for others must complete the Family Childcare (FCC) Certification course available through Child and Youth Services.

7. Children in 10th grade and below who are left overnight must be under on-site supervision of a competent adult. Parents who leave children overnight in the care of others will provide specific instructions to the care provider. These instructions must include where to reach parents in case of an emergency and a signed medical power of attorney, available from the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate.

8. When youth in the 11th or 12th grade are left alone overnight, a competent adult must be available for emergencies and must have a medical power of attorney for the children. Parents and guardians should be accessible by telephone. Service Members must notify their Commander or First Sergeant when situations require an appropriately aged youth being left alone for more than two consecutive nights.

9. Parents or legal guardians are responsible for the control of minors at all times. Individuals seeking further clarification concerning the installation's Child Supervision Policy may contact the Directorate of Emergency Services at (706) 791-4397.

10. Failure to supervise or safeguard children, or failure to comply with this policy, may result in a finding of neglect or a violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, Failure to Obey an Order or Regulation. All allegations of child neglect or abuse will be reported to the Reporting Point of Contact (RPOC), Military Law Enforcement at (706) 949-4829 and by contacting the local 24/7 Georgia Child Abuse and Neglect reporting hotline at (855) 422-4453. The RPOC will notify the Family

Advocacy Program – Clinical by calling (706) 787-3656 during duty hours to report.

11. The point of contact for this policy memorandum is the Family Advocacy Program Manager at: (706) 791-5891.

NANCY K. HARRIS
COL, SC
Commanding

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