



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT STEWART/HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD
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FORT STEWART, GEORGIA 31314

IMSH-MWR-A

JUN 30 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: U.S. Army Garrison Policy Memorandum #22, Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Child Supervision Policy

1. REFERENCES:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 608-18, Army Family Advocacy Program, 30 October 2007.
- b. Department of Defense Education Activity Regulation Number 2095.01, School Attendance, 26 August 2011.
- c. South Carolina/Fort Stewart/Department of Defense Dependent Schools/Cuba School District Attendance Policy, dated 23 July 2012.

2. PURPOSE: This policy implements AR 608-18 and imposes requirements for supervision and safety of children at Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield (FS/HAAF).

3. APPLICABILITY: This policy is applicable to all personnel assigned to or occupying government or privatized quarters on FS/HAAF. This policy also applies to occupants in transient billeting and any other location within the boundaries of FS/HAAF. This policy is punitive. Violations of this policy may subject offenders to adverse administrative action, non-judicial or judicial action under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or prosecution under applicable Georgia Code.

4. DEFINITIONS:

- a. Adult. Any person 18 years of age or older.
- b. Child. Any person under 18 years of age or incapable of self-support because of mental or physical incapacity, whether a natural child, adopted child, foster child, stepchild, or ward.
- c. Child Neglect. Inattention to a child's minimum needs for safety, nurturance, food, shelter, clothing, medical care, dental care, education, or well-being and tends to be chronic in nature.
- d. Close Supervision. Direct line of sight for the safeguarding and oversight of young children. The adult supervising must be able to immediately respond to any emergency or threatening situation.

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e. Direct Supervision. Adult supervision of young children on a regular basis, and ability to respond within one minute.

f. Access. An adult is aware of the child's location and activities during out of school hours. An emergency contact will be available at all times.

g. Designated Route to and from School: Designated route set by the installation for children to walk to and from school. Crossing guards will be at the designated routes 30 minutes before and 30 minutes after school.

5. POLICY:

a. Parents/guardians are responsible at all times for the supervision, health, safety and welfare of their children.

b. Before leaving children unsupervised, parents/guardians must carefully consider the amount of responsibility their children can successfully assume. Chronological age should be the basic standard, but not the sole determinant of the level of supervision required. The consideration of the total child is particularly critical when children have any special needs.

c. Parents are ultimately responsible for the welfare and actions of their children. Failure to exercise those parental responsibilities may constitute child neglect. Parents should not give the degree of self-management and responsibility allowed in this guidance to children with significant mental delays and/or disabilities. Parents must use good judgement and consider the physical, emotional, and psychological maturity of their child when determining the level of supervision the child requires.

d. Whenever any child is unsupervised/unattended the following should apply...

(1) There must be no emotional, medical, or behavioral problems which affect judgement or decision making skills.

(2) The child must be comfortable being alone.

(3) The child must have a safety plan worked out with the parent/caretaker, which includes: How to access parent or other responsible adult at all times (including knowing the parent/ caretaker's whereabouts and having a telephone number where parent can be reached); what to do in case of emergency; guidelines for acceptable behavior; and knowledge of emergency telephone numbers.

(4) The child must demonstrate the ability to follow a Safety plan and to make decisions that reflect concern for personal safety.

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e. All children need to be provided the opportunity to grow and learn in a safe environment, especially during the summer months and school intercessions. Parents/guardians will ensure the health and safety of their children by providing appropriate supervision. In all cases, interpretation of this policy will be made in the favor of the child's safety.

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

g. Individuals should refer to the enclosed Age Matrix, Appendix A, for minimum standards for use in making decisions involving safety and proper supervision of children.

h. Child Supervision:

(1) Children from Newborn through 8 years of age will have close supervision at all times, in and out of the home to include playgrounds, outdoor play, and walking to and from school. For school purposes the age limits will be defined as Pre-K through 3rd grade.

(2) Children 9-12 years of age may be left unattended in quarters for a maximum of 2 hours during the day, and must not be caring for another child, and only if the child has access to an adult and demonstrates the ability to be responsible and mature.

(3) Children 13 years of age may be left unattended in quarters for a maximum of 3 hours during the day if the child has access to an adult and demonstrates the ability to be responsible and mature. The parent or guardian of a child 13 years or older may authorize that child to escort their younger sibling (grades 1-3) to and from school, written authorization must be provided to the school. In the event that a younger sibling is late to school, the parent/guardian is responsible for signing them in.

(4) Children 14 years of age may be left unattended in quarters for a maximum of 6 hours if the child has access to an adult and demonstrates the ability to be responsible and mature.

(5) Children 15-17 years of age may be left unattended in quarters for a maximum of 8 hours if the child has access to an adult and demonstrates the ability to be responsible and mature. Children of this age range may be left unattended overnight if the parent/guardian is in the local area (no more than an hour away by car).

(6) Children ages 9-17 must be provided a telephone number where the parent/guardian can be reached as well as telephone numbers for the police and fire department and the hospital. The name and telephone number of a designated adult

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who can immediately be available in the event of an emergency must be provided to the child.

i. Guidelines for Babysitting: Children 13 years of age and older who demonstrate maturity and responsibility may care for younger children if they have attended the Babysitting Class for teens. Parents/guardians are strongly encouraged to ensure that siblings providing child care have been certified in infant/child CPR, Basic First Aid, and proper care giving techniques. All non-Family Child Care (FCC) providers must be certified. Child, Youth & School Services provides free training for babysitters.

(1) Children 13-14 years of age may care for younger children (non-siblings) for a maximum of 3 hours, if they have attended the Babysitting Class for teens. It is not recommended that children 13-14 years of age care for infants, small children, and children that require special attention due to medical conditions.

(2) Children 13-14 years of age may care for younger siblings for a maximum of 3 hours, without direct supervision; however they are encouraged to be certified in infant/child CPR, Basic First Aid, and proper care giving techniques. It is not recommended that children 13-14 years of age care for infants, small children, and children that require special attention due to medical conditions.

(3) Children 15-17 years of age may care for younger children (non-siblings) for a maximum of 8 hours, if they have attended the Babysitting Class for teens.

(4) Children 15-17 years of age may care for younger siblings for a maximum of 8 hours, without direct supervision. This does not include overnight care. Children in this age group are encouraged to be certified in infant/child CPR, Basic First Aid, and proper care giving techniques.

(5) Children will not be supervised by anyone under 18 years of age for more than eight hours or overnight.

j. FS/HAAF Curfew for Children under 18 Years of Age:

(1) Children 11 years of age or younger shall be inside their home or someone else's home between 2100 and 0600, unless they are under close supervision of a parent/guardian or sibling 18 years of age or older.

(2) Children who are 12 years of age or older, but less than 15 years of age, shall be inside their home or someone else's home between 2200 and 0600, unless they are under close supervision of a parent/guardian or sibling 18 years of age or older; or returning home from a community/school-organized function or facility, a Youth Services Program, and traveling to or from verifiable employment.

(3) Children who are 15 years of age, but less than 18 years of age, shall be inside their home or someone else's home between midnight and 0600, unless they are under

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close supervision of a parent/guardian or sibling 18 years of age or older; or returning home from a community/school-organized function or facility, a Youth Services Program, and traveling to or from verifiable employment.

(4) Parents or guardians are responsible for compliance with this curfew. If the child is in the company of an adult other than a parent/guardian during the period of curfew, the parent/guardian must authorize the adult in advance to supervise and be responsible for the child.

k. Child Passenger Vehicle Safety: Children 10 years of age or younger will not be left unattended for any period in a vehicle. See Appendix A for detailed information. Children 11-14 must have direct supervision when left unattended in a vehicle. Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield enforces Georgia law for car seat requirements for children. Details regarding child safety restraints may be found at <http://www.gahighwaysafety.org/ChildPassengerc3.pdf>.

6. Everyone should be alert to any action or situation that endangers the security of minors and should report violations of this policy to the following:


a. To make a report of child abuse or neglect call the Reporting Point of Contact (RPOC) line for FS/HAAF at 912-767-0025.

b. Additional contact numbers: Family Advocacy Program-Medical Treatment Facility (FS 435-6779/HAAF 315-5236), Army Community Service (FS 767-5058/HAAF 315-6815/6816), and the Directorate of Emergency Services, (FS 767-2822/HAAF 315-6133).

c. Child, Youth & School Services (FS 767-2312/HAAF 915-5425) is available to assist parents/guardians in finding suitable childcare.

7. PROPONENT: The proponent of this policy is Army Community Service Family Advocacy Program at 912-767-2882.

Encl



JASON A. WOLTER
COL, AR
Commanding

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B&D

Balfour Beatty Housing Community

Appendix A

Fort Stewart Child Supervision Policy, Age Matrix

1. Parents/Guardians are responsible for the welfare and safety of children in the military community.
2. Each child is unique. Personality, environment, development progress, and maturity level are factors used to determine when children are ready to accomplish activities with little or no supervision. The following are minimum community standards, and under no circumstances you reduce the guidelines. Parents/Guardians are still required to assess their child, and if necessary, raise the age limits.

| Age of Child | Left Home Alone | Left Alone Overnight | Play Outside Unattended | Left in Car Unattended | Child Sit for Siblings Training Encouraged | Child Sit for Other Children. Must have Training | Walk to and From School Unattended /Bus Stop |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| Newborn through Age 8 | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO | NO (Pre-K Through 3 rd Grade) |
| Ages 9-12 | YES, limit 2 hours | NO | YES, with parent/guardian access and knowledge of child's whereabouts | NO, Ages 9-10 YES, Ages 11 and above, with direct supervision | NO | NO | YES, Designated Route/ Designated Time |
| Age 13 | YES, limit 3 hours | NO | YES, with parent/guardian access and knowledge of child's whereabouts | YES, with direct supervision | YES, for up to 3 hours | YES, may care for younger children up to 3 hours | YES |
| Age 14 | YES, limit 6 hours | NO | YES, with parent/guardian access and knowledge of child's whereabouts | YES, with direct supervision | YES, for up to 3 hours | YES, may care for younger children up to 3 hours | YES |
| Ages 15-17 | YES, limit 8 hours | YES, with sponsor in local area and access to adult supervision | YES, with parent/guardian access and knowledge of child's whereabouts | YES | YES, for up to 8 hours, overnight care not authorized | YES, may care for younger children up to 8 hours, overnight care not authorized | YES |