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**RISK ASSESSMENT FOR:**  **Children walking home alone**

If parents choose to let the child travel to / from school independently, then they need to assess the risks associated with the school route and the child’s confidence, maturity and age.

When completing this risk assessment, please consult the following website: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/services-and-resources/research-and-resources/2015/out-alone/> or downloading the guidance here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/globalassets/documents/advice-and-info/out-alone-keeping-child-safe.pdf>

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| **LIST HAZARDS HERE** | **LIST GROUPS OF PEOPLE WHO ARE ESPECIALLY AT RISK FROM THE HAZARDS** | LOOK AT THE QUESTIONS BELOW | **NOTE ANY ACTION YOU WILL TAKE TO CONTROL RISKS WHERE APPLICABLE** | **ACTUAL RISK RATING**  **Low/ Medium/ High** |
| * getting lost * danger from traffic * bullying * stranger danger * grooming * running into gangs * exposure to alcohol or drugs * … | Child | * Have you, the parent/carer, considered the risk/s posed by leaving your child alone, walking to / from school or in the care of a sibling? |  |  |
| * How old is / are the child/ren? |  |
| * How mature is / are the child/ren? |  |
| * What is their level of understanding / awareness about being unsupervised / walking to and from school? |  |
| * Which route will your child take? |  |
| * Which roads will your child have to cross? |  |
| * How comfortable is / are the child/ren with the arrangements (this includes the younger child and the older child who is acting as ‘carer’). |  |
| * Have you and your child practised the route? |  |
| * Where will the children be left? Is this a safe place? |  |
| * How long, and how often, will the children be   left? |  |
| * Is the home environment safe and secure? Have you assessed the home environment / journey to or from school for risks? |  |
| * Has the older child or ‘carer’ been involved in the risk assessment? |  |
| * How far will the child/ren have to walk (if appropriate)? |  |
| * How far away will you, the parent/carer, be? Will you be easily contactable? |  |
| * Do any of the children (this includes the older sibling or ‘carer’) have additional needs – medical, emotional, behavioural, learning difficulties / disabilities? How will these be met   in your (parent / carers) absence? |  |
| * Does the child or sibling caring for another child know what to do in an emergency? Does the child know who they can contact in case of an emergency? Have instructions been left. E.g. in the case of a fire? |  |
| * What are the expectations for the child/ren during this time? For example, are they expected to cook for themselves etc.? |  |
| * Does the child have knowledge about how to keep themselves and younger siblings safe e.g. road safety, not answering the door to strangers, cooking etc.? |  |
| * What is your child’s level of knowledge when it comes to first aid? |  |
| * How well do the siblings get on? How will tension be managed in the absence of you; the parent / carer? |  |
| * Is your child clear about rules and boundaries of what they can and can’t do while not in adult supervision? If looking after a younger sibling, do they have the confidence and authority to implement these rules consistently? What will they do if the younger children misbehave? |  |