



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FORT GORDON
307 CHAMBERLAIN AVENUE
FORT GORDON, GEORGIA 30905-5730

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

IMSE-GOR-ZA

NOV 15 2011

MEMORANDUM FOR Fort Gordon Military and Civilian Personnel

SUBJECT: Garrison Commander's Policy Memorandum No. 15 — Supervision of Children

1. Safeguarding children is the responsibility of parents and/or guardians. Before leaving children unsupervised, parents and guardians must carefully consider the amount of responsibility their children can successfully assume. Chronological age should be the basic standard, not the sole determinant, of the level of supervision children require. The consideration of the total child is particularly critical when children have any special needs. Children who are birth to ten years of age or handicapped must never be left unsupervised. The following are minimum requirements for parents and guardians concerning supervision of children.
2. Children up to grade 5 require (children who have not yet begun their academic year in the 6th grade) direct supervision by an adult or babysitter who is at least in the 8th grade. The person supervising must be continuously aware of the child's actions in order to instantly protect the child from 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 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 the reach of vision or vocal contact. Children walking between Freedom Park Elementary and their homes are required to have direct adult supervision.
3. Children in grades 6 through 8 must receive monitored care in the form of being in a designated area established by the supervisor in order for the supervisor to make regular checks on the child. The supervisor must instruct the child to notify them before changing locations. They may be left in an unsupervised domicile during waking hours for brief periods of time (2 hours or less). When possible, parents or guardians are encouraged to provide periodic follow-up with the child telephonically. Children must be provided a telephone number where the parent(s) can be reached as well as telephone numbers for the police and fire departments and the hospital. The name and telephone number of a designated adult who can immediately be available in the event of an emergency must be provided to the child.
4. Youth who are grades 9 through 12 can provide self-care for longer periods of time, not to exceed 12 hours, consistent with parental discretion and consideration of the child's emotional and physical capabilities. Parents must remain responsible for their children at all times. Therefore, parents are discouraged from routinely leaving their child unattended for prolonged

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hours during the night. Parents and guardians who allow an appropriately aged child to provide self-care must provide the child with a key, telephone numbers to the police, fire department, and hospital, as well as 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, the sitter's emotional, intellectual and physical capabilities must always be considered. Children who are grade 8 may babysit for short periods of time, not to exceed 6 hours. Youth who are grade 10 may babysit for periods not to exceed 8 hours.

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

7. Children grade 10 and younger who are left overnight will be under the 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 should be accessible by telephone. Service Members must notify their commander or First Sergeant when situations necessitate an appropriately aged youth/child being left alone for more than two consecutive nights.

9. Minors are prohibited from remaining in a public place on Fort Gordon between 2400-0500, except as specifically authorized in the Garrison Commander's Policy Memorandum Number 19, Fort Gordon Curfew, dated 19 March 2010. Parents or legal guardians are responsible for the control of minors during curfew hours. Individuals seeking further clarification concerning installation curfew policy must contact the Directorate of Emergency Services at 706-791-4397.

10. Failure to supervise and/or safeguard children or comply with this policy may result in a finding of neglect or violation of Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice (Failure to Obey an Order or Regulation). All allegations of child neglect and/or abuse will be reported to

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the Department of Social Work at 706-787-3656 during duty hours and 706-787-5811 after duty hours and the Military Police at 911 or 706-791-4380.

11. Army Community Service, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation is the proponent of this Policy Memorandum.


ROBERT A. BARKER
COL, SC
Commanding

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This memorandum supersedes Garrison Commander's Policy Memorandum No. 10 – Supervision of Children, dated 25 November 2009.