



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, FT GREELY
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IMFG-ZA

23 October 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Installation Policy Memorandum #14-05, Child Youth Supervision and Babysitting

1. REFERENCES.

a. Memorandum, Headquarters, United States Army Community and Family Support Center, CFSC-CYS, 11 July 2000, Subject: Out of School Child Supervision Requirements for Elementary and Middle School Children and Youth During Parental Duty Hours.

b. AR 608-10, CDS Babysitting Training and Referral Service, August 1997.

2. Purpose: The purpose of this memorandum is to establish Fort Greely policy for the supervision of children that is in compliance with the above listed HQDA policy. While recognizing that the care and supervision of children is a parental responsibility, this policy establishes the minimum supervision requirements for children who reside on, or are guests on, Fort Greely. Research shows that unsupervised children are at greater risk for personal injury, injury to other persons and property, early sexual activity, substance abuse and are more apt to engage in vandalism and petty crimes. The National Center for Juvenile Justice shows the majority of juvenile violent crimes are committed between the hours of 1600 and 1800.

3. Definitions: "supervision" is the act of watching, directing and guiding a child's activities in order to ensure their safety and well-being. It is also a planned, consistent way to provide ongoing care for children to include necessities of nourishment, sanitation, and well being. Parental supervision requires that a parent knows where their children are, what they are doing and to establish limits on their activities taking into consideration the harshness of the Alaskan environment, the varying levels of maturity and any special needs of their children.

4. Policy: As defined below and in Table 1, this policy is based on a child's grade in school and the child's age. Table 2 is an age-grade conversion chart for children. During the summer school break period, children are considered to still be in the grade they just completed. Incidents of unsupervised children should be reported to the Fort Greely DA Police Desk at 873-COPS, who will investigate the incident.

a. Newborn through 1st day of Kindergarten: Children in this category require continual supervision and may never be left alone or unattended.

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b. Kindergarten through 1st day of 6th Grade: Children in this category may not be left alone at home or in a vehicle but may be allowed to play outside provided they are within sight or hearing distance of a parent or person who has agreed to supervise the child's activities. Children in this category may also travel to and from school, Youth Center (YC), School Age Center (SAC), or scheduled community events. Children in this category may not provide babysitting services.

c. 6th Grade through 1st day of 10th Grade: Youth in this category may be allowed to remain at home alone for up to 10 hours, if they are sufficiently mature to articulate and follow an emergency plan. However, parents must have a prearranged, verifiable telephone check-in plan or a prearranged, verifiable plan for a neighbor or friend to physically check on the youth at least once during the time the youth is home alone. Youth in this category are not allowed to remain home alone overnight.

d. 10th Grade through 12th Grade: Youth in grades 10-12 may be allowed to remain home alone for up to 24 hours if sufficiently mature to articulate and follow an emergency plan. Parents must have a prearranged, verifiable telephone check-in plan with their youth or a prearranged, verifiable plan for a neighbor or friend to physically check on the youth at least twice during the time the youth is home alone in excess of 10 hours. Youth must know where one parent is and know how to contact that parent.

5. Babysitting:

a. Babysitting is defined as a person entrusted to care for child/children when the parents are away.

b. Selections and supervision of a babysitter is the sole responsibility of the parent. Parents should carefully select babysitters to ensure the sitter is mature and experienced enough to adequately care for the number, ages and maturity of the children.

c. Parents are responsible for providing instructions to their babysitters in areas that cover important issues regarding each child, their emergency plan, emergency contact information and fire evacuation, as a minimum.

d. Parents are encouraged to review each babysitter carefully. Check their references and observe their interaction and manageability with their children prior to utilizing them as a babysitter.

e. Parents are strongly encouraged to ensure that the babysitter has been trained in infant/Child CPR, Basic First Aid, proper care giving techniques and have attended the babysitting course. Babysitter training is offered on a quarterly basis utilizing 4H and American Heart Association curriculum. Child, Youth & School Services (CYSS) will maintain a certified babysitter list that is available for all community members to use. By Army Regulation 608-10, youth must be 13 years of age to be placed on the community referral list.

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f. Youth who are 13 years of age and above may provide babysitting services on post, in the home of the child being cared for. However, youth who are 13 years of age through the 1st day of 10th grade may not babysit in excess of 10 hours per day. Youth in 10th grade through 12th grade may babysit siblings for up to 24 hours or other non-sibling children for up to 12 hours.

g. In accordance with Army Regulation 608-10b, babysitters may not provide care in their own quarters in excess of 10 hours per week without certification through Family Child Care and approval by the Garrison Commander.

6. Child Supervision Options: Table 3 lists child supervision criteria and supervision options. Parents should assess their children's capabilities before selecting a child supervision option. Parents who need assistance in identifying an option that meets their requirements should contact the Child, Youth & School Services Parent Central Registration at (907) 873-4599.

7. Point of contact for this memorandum is the CYS Services Coordinator at 907-873-4600.



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LTC, SF

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