



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, WEST POINT
681 HARDEE PLACE
WEST POINT, NY 10996-1514

IMNE-MIL-MWA

28 October 2009

USAG WEST POINT POLICY MEMORANDUM #20

SUBJECT: Supervision of Minor Children at West Point

1. PURPOSE. To provide guidelines for supervision of children at West Point, NY.

2. REFERENCES:

a. AR 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program, dated 30 October 2007.

b. AR 608-10, Child Development Services, dated 15 July 1997.

c. Memorandum, HQ CFSC-CYS, July 2000, SUBJECT: Out of School Child Supervision Requirements for Elementary and Middle School Children and Youth During Parental Duty Hours.

d. Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 6060.3, School Age Care Program, dated 19 December 1996.

3. APPLICABILITY. This policy applies to all personnel assigned to the United States Military Academy (USMA), USAG-WP, Family members, and tenant activities.

4. BACKGROUND:

a. While realizing that safeguarding children is primarily a parental responsibility, the Department of Defense (DOD) requires each Installation to develop a child supervision policy that offers guidelines for parents and the community to achieve this task.

b. Department of the Army (DA) offers guidelines for establishing this policy, including the creation of an Installation team to develop a local policy that best meets the needs of West Point.

5. POLICY:

a. The West Point guidelines for the supervision of minor children are based on the child's age and grade in school. Table 1 explains the level of supervision required for children and specifies the following:

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(1) Children in the fourth grade and below require supervision at all times.

(2) Children in the fifth grade/11 years old are in a transitional year and may gradually begin to exercise self-care beginning with short periods of time, provided the parent/guardian believes the fifth grader/11 year old is mature enough to exercise self-care. While exercising self-care for any length of time during this transitional period, children are required to have ready access to an adult as set up by their parent/guardian prior to leaving the fifth grader/11 year old alone. Education by the parent/guardian on self-care and safety is highly recommended prior to leaving the fifth grader/11 year old alone for the first time, and then at regular intervals during the transitional period.

(3) Children in the sixth grade and above may be left home alone. Children in these grades may also babysit younger siblings. The completion of a babysitting course is highly recommended. Children must have ready access to adult supervision.

(4) Children 13 years and older may baby-sit children other than siblings. A babysitting course is highly recommended.

b. Table 2 provides conversions of ages to grades for home-schooled children.

6. RESPONSIBILITIES:

a. Military and DOD civilian sponsors are responsible at all times for the supervision, health, safety, and welfare of their Family members and guests on the Installation. Deliberate failure to provide for adequate and reasonable care of minor children may result in adverse consequences for the sponsor. These consequences may include, but are not limited to, criminal prosecution, civil liability, and/or termination of housing privileges on the Installation.

b. Child, Youth, and School Services (CYSS) will maintain a referral list of registered babysitters who are 13 years old and older and who have completed the babysitting course.

c. CYSS will maintain a resource list of activities both on and off the Installation that are available options for supervision.

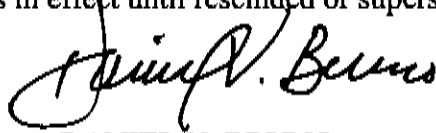
d. Every member of the West Point community is responsible for maintaining the highest possible safety standards. Each member should report information regarding known or suspected incidents of child abuse or child neglect. This is a matter of good faith and should be taken seriously. The Reporting Point Of Contact is the Military Police at 938-3333.

7. PROPONENT. The proponent for this memorandum is Ms. Shelley Ariosto, Family Advocacy Program Manager, (845) 938-3369.

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8. EXPIRATION. This policy remains in effect until rescinded or superseded.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel V. Bruno". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

DANIEL V. BRUNO
COL, AG
Garrison Commander

TABLE 1

USMA CHILD SUPERVISION GUIDELINES

Age of child	Child Characteristics	May be left alone at home	May be left alone overnight	May be left outside unattended (playing)	May be left alone in a vehicle	May baby-sit siblings	May baby-sit others (besides siblings)
Newborn to age 4	Requires close supervision at all times	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO
Ages 5-9 years old	Children begin to explore their environment under supervision	NO	NO	At playground (close to home) or with immediate access (sight or hearing distance) to adult supervision. Kindergartners may not walk to and from school or other supervised activities alone. 1 st through 5 th graders may walk to and from school and other supervised activities alone.	NO	NO	NO
Age 10 years old – continue to require supervision	This is a transitional time for these children. They are accepting more responsibility; require intermittent supervision.	For UP TO 3 hours. Must have access to indirect supervision (neighbor, checking with parent by phone, etc.)	NO	YES, with ready access to adult supervision.	Not more than 15 minutes and the keys MUST be removed.	NO	NO
Ages 11-13, continue to need intermittent contact with adult supervisor	Children are approaching the adolescent years when there is a need for increased responsibility. The amount of responsibility should be carefully evaluated.	For UP TO 6 hours, with ready access to adult supervision; intermittent contact with a supervisor.	NO	YES	YES	YES – babysitting course is highly recommended.	6 th graders may NOT reach their birthday may. Babysitting course is highly recommended.
Ages 14-15: Parents are responsible for their children and their actions	Children continue to need to know how to access parents and guidance for emergency situations	YES; parents are responsible for their children and their actions	NO	YES	YES	YES – babysitting course is highly recommended	YES – babysitting course is highly recommended
Ages 16-18	Parents responsible for their children and their actions as long as Family member status is maintained.	YES	YES – indirect supervision recommended (1)	YES	YES	YES – babysitting course is highly recommended	YES – babysitting course is highly recommended.

(1) - Indirect supervision plans include mandated checking in with a neighbor, emergency phone numbers of parents and emergency medical power of attorney.

TABLE 2		CONVERSION FROM AGE TO GRADE FOR HOME SCHOOLED CHILDREN											
AGE	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17/18
GRADE	Kindergarten	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th	7 th	8 th	9 th	10 th	11 th	12 th