Lone Working

Policy

Atypical Education



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Lone Working

Lone working refers to staff working independently with one or more students, either at home or away from the school, during or outside term time. Guidance and advice are taken from the Health and Safety Executive [HSE website](https://www.hse.gov.uk/lone-working/worker/index.htm)

 All staff working alone or with students should ensure that they:

* Make sure someone is aware they are working alone/ with students
* a means of contact with the emergency contacts
* have completed a health risk assessment to ensure it is appropriate for them to work alone
* Staff working with students should also have DSL training.
* Lone Working Risk Assessment should be carried out.

Key Actions

When working alone with a student or group of students:

* Lone workers must maintain regular communication with key contacts, e.g. school, colleague or parent, fostering a sense of community and support.
* Carry a means of communication with them (mobile phone) and the emergency contact details of the pupil
* Inform key contact of plans – which student(s), where you are going etc.
* Seek the permission of parents and inform them of your plans
* Carry out a comprehensive risk assessment of the activities planned, including how to get help, what to do if your car breaks down, etc., ensuring all potential risks are identified and addressed. If there are changes in plans to complete a Dynamic Risk Assessment.
* If completing a home visit, check the home environment's appropriateness for an unaccompanied visit (alerts should be on student risk assessments).
* Find a public space for any activity (e.g. library, café, sports centre).
* Ensure that all student risk assessments are current and highlight no additional risks to adults.
* Keep detailed logs of the activities.
* Carry contact details in your car of what to do in an emergency, and ensure the student(s) know where this is and what to do.
* When using your car to transport students, ensure you comply with insurance, car safety, etc.
* Carry first aid equipment and have appropriate first aid training

Transporting Pupils

Drivers are responsible for their vehicles' roadworthiness, task appropriateness, and fitness to drive.

Drivers must ensure that they:

* Have an appropriate, valid driving license
* Are insured for the journey (Business Use)
* Have a valid MOT certificate
* Have a valid road TAX
* Have checked that the vehicle is in a roadworthy condition
* Are not excessively tired, fatigued or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
* Meet minimum eyesight standards for driving. If they need to wear glasses or contact lenses to meet minimum standards, these must always be worn.
* Have no medical condition, including the taking of medication or infirmity that may

affect their ability to drive safely.

Additionally, all drivers should have regular eye tests to ensure their eyesight remains within minimum standards for driving. Drivers should also ensure that any changes in their health do not affect their driving ability. Drivers must also notify their manager of any driving convictions, endorsements or disqualifications where they are required or may be required to drive for work.

Before transporting young people, a comprehensive assessment of their needs (including physical, emotional, behavioural, and medical) and the associated risks to them and the driver must be conducted. This should include gathering and sharing information with all agencies supporting the young person. This information is required to inform specific risk assessments for transporting the young person. The information will need to be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains valid.

Where information gathered on a child/young person or employee’s safety poses a significant risk to the child/young person or staff member’s safety during transportation, then a specific risk assessment relating to this activity must be carried out. It is impossible to give total, detailed control measures for such risk assessments, as they will relate to the needs of the individual and the specific circumstances involved.

Schools or Parents must permit young people to be transported by Atypical Education, where necessary. Every effort should be made to gain written consent, but where this is impossible, details of the verbal consent should be recorded. If no type of consent is obtained, transportation should not be permitted.

Risk Assessments of Pupils

Young people must behave appropriately while travelling in the vehicle. If there are any concerns during the journey, a dynamic “on the spot” risk assessment should be carried out to determine if there is a significant risk to the driver or passenger and appropriate action taken.

If the young person has a medical condition likely to require additional support/medication, a copy of their Care Plan, along with the appropriate medicines, must be available. Any medication for children should be brought in its original packaging with the dosage sticker visible. A parent or member of staff who has received training in administering support/medication should accompany the young person in the vehicle. First aid kits are carried out, and appropriate training is provided. When considering young people with medical conditions, their transportation and any control measures required during transportation should be included in their individual care or treatment plan and used to inform any risk assessment.

For young people who present with behavioural issues, a range of control measures could be considered, from not transporting the person if it is felt their behaviour is such that doing so is not safe to placing the young person so they cannot easily distract the driver (diagonally across from the driver in the back seat), amongst others.

A system should be implemented to minimise lone working risks, including a monitoring system such as the Ok Alone app or check-ins with colleag

ues.