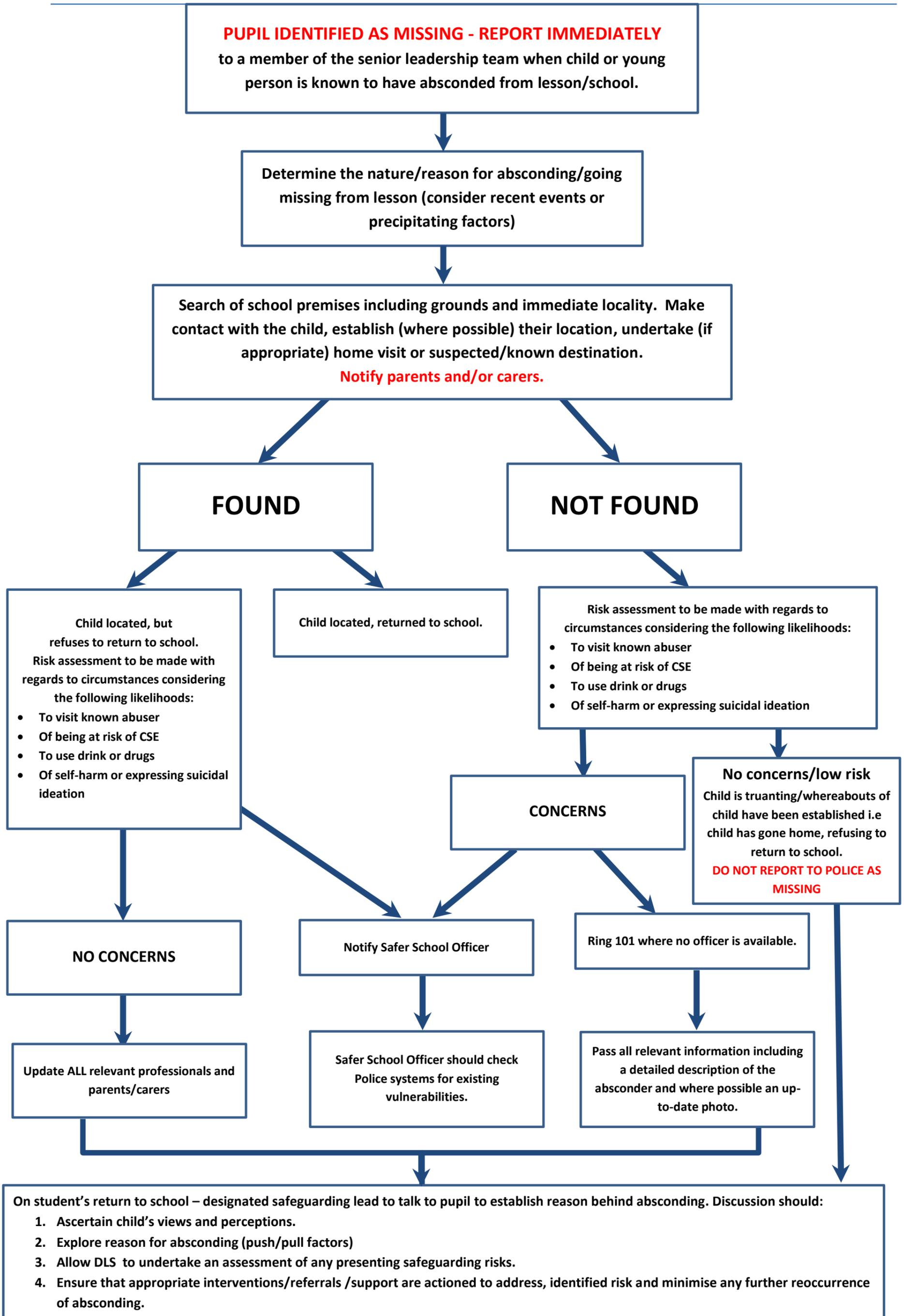


Referral pathway for reporting children and young people missing/absconded during the school day



PUPIL IDENTIFIED AS MISSING - REPORT IMMEDIATELY

to a member of the senior leadership team when child or young person is known to have absconded from lesson/school.

Determine the nature/reason for absconding/going missing from lesson (consider recent events or precipitating factors)

Search of school premises including grounds and immediate locality. Make contact with the child, establish (where possible) their location, undertake (if appropriate) home visit or suspected/known destination.
Notify parents and/or carers.

FOUND

NOT FOUND

Child located, but refuses to return to school.
Risk assessment to be made with regards to circumstances considering the following likelihoods:
• To visit known abuser
• Of being at risk of CSE
• To use drink or drugs
• Of self-harm or expressing suicidal ideation

Child located, returned to school.

Risk assessment to be made with regards to circumstances considering the following likelihoods:
• To visit known abuser
• Of being at risk of CSE
• To use drink or drugs
• Of self-harm or expressing suicidal ideation

NO CONCERNS

CONCERNS

No concerns/low risk
Child is truanting/whereabouts of child have been established i.e child has gone home, refusing to return to school.
DO NOT REPORT TO POLICE AS MISSING

Update ALL relevant professionals and parents/carers

Notify Safer School Officer

Ring 101 where no officer is available.

Safer School Officer should check Police systems for existing vulnerabilities.

Pass all relevant information including a detailed description of the absconder and where possible an up-to-date photo.

On student's return to school – designated safeguarding lead to talk to pupil to establish reason behind absconding. Discussion should:

1. Ascertain child's views and perceptions.
2. Explore reason for absconding (push/pull factors)
3. Allow DLS to undertake an assessment of any presenting safeguarding risks.
4. Ensure that appropriate interventions/referrals /support are actioned to address, identified risk and minimise any further reoccurrence of absconding.