



**PRESTIGE  
GUARDIANS**

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**MISSING STUDENT  
POLICY**

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Prestige Guardians Ltd.

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**This Policy was written on 01 April 2022 by Mr Alan MacRae.**

**It was reviewed on 01 April 2024 and annually thereafter.**

The safety of all students is paramount and it is essential that we know where all our students are at all times. Should a student go missing, Prestige Guardians will take the following steps to ensure their safe return to our care or their school.

When a student is identified as not being at a location they are meant or are expected to be at, the reporting individual must take proactive steps to trace the student's whereabouts prior to contacting the police. Such steps would include:

- Call the student's mobile phone
- Contact Prestige Guardians +441225859998 / +447551 081009 (24-hour emergency number)
- Contacting the missing student's school, host family & friends
- Checking social media

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## Reporting to the Police

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The Police will only become involved after all reasonable checks to locate the student have been carried out. If the student is not located, the reporting individual should contact the Police via 101 to report them as being missing from their address.

The primary function of the Police is to investigate the disappearance and attempt to locate the student prior to any harm befalling them. Police response and associated actions will be based on a police risk assessment of the incident and knowledge of the student concerned, which will utilise information from partners and those who know the person.



## When a child is found

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The attitude of professionals, such as police and social workers, towards a student who has been missing can have a big impact on how they will engage with subsequent investigations and protection planning.

However, they are children and may be extremely vulnerable to multiple risks. A supportive approach when a student returns, actively listening and responding to their needs, will have a greater chance of preventing the student from going missing again and safeguarding them against other risks.

## Actions to be Followed by Staff once the Pupil is Found

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- Staff will talk with, take care of and comfort the student.
- Staff will speak with the other students to ensure that they understand why they should not leave without obtaining permission and notifying their Guardian.
- The DSL will speak with the parents/agent to report the incident, and then record an account of the incident by writing a letter to the parents.
- The DSL will carry out a full investigation involving, if appropriate, the Police and the appropriate Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- The written report of the incident will record details of time, place, members of staff, the circumstances in which the student went missing, an outline of what was understood to have happened, the length of time during which the student was missing and an initial explanation of how the incident appeared to have arisen. Written statements may be invited from all.
- Any media questions will be referred to the DSL
- All relevant procedures will be reviewed in the light of the incident.