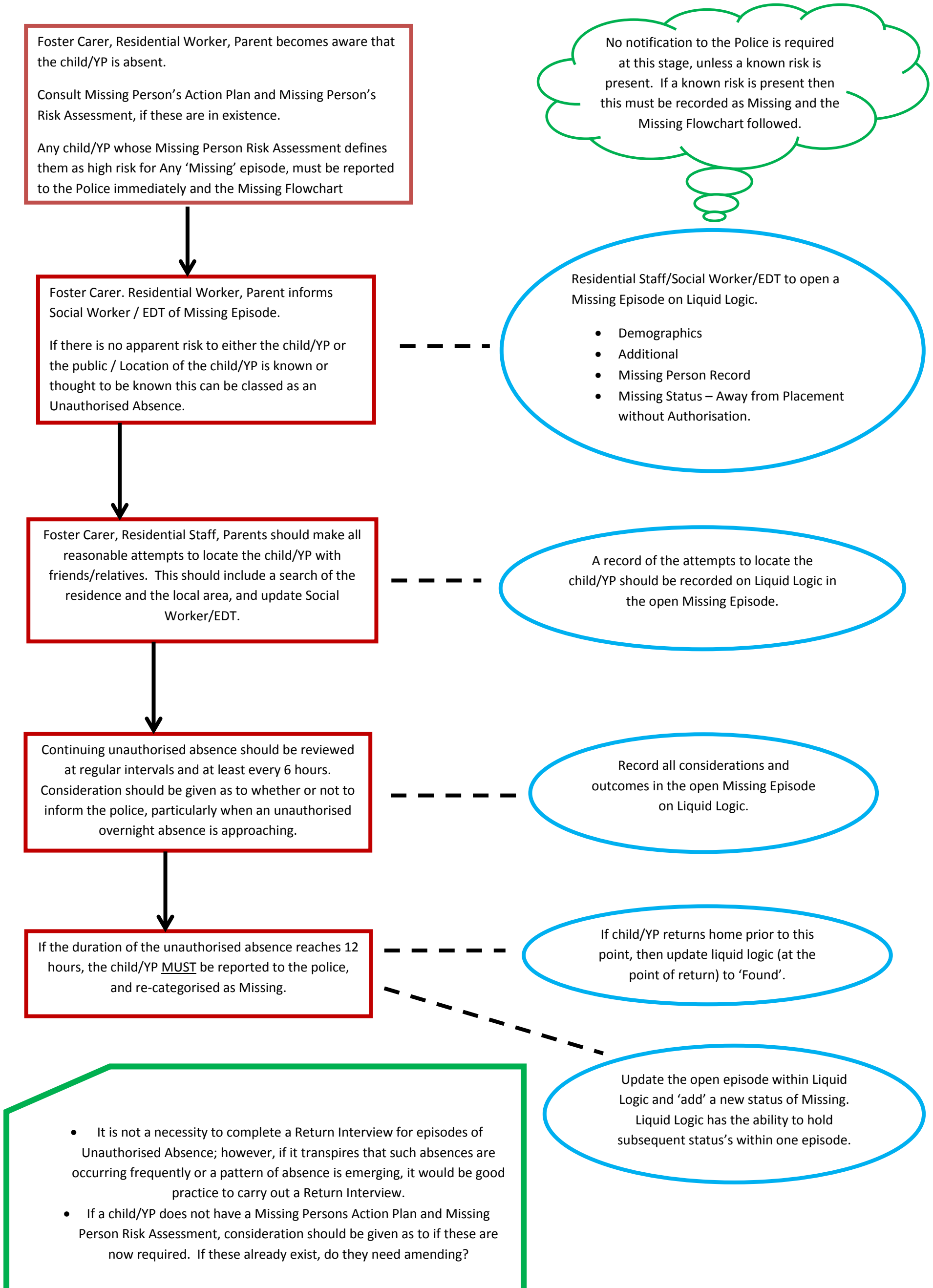


Unauthorised Absence

(No apparent risk to either the child/YP or the public. Location of the child/YP is known or thought to be known.)



Foster Carer, Residential Worker, Parent becomes aware that the child/YP is absent.

Consult Missing Person's Action Plan and Missing Person's Risk Assessment, if these are in existence.

Any child/YP whose Missing Person Risk Assessment defines them as high risk for Any 'Missing' episode, must be reported to the Police immediately and the Missing Flowchart

No notification to the Police is required at this stage, unless a known risk is present. If a known risk is present then this must be recorded as Missing and the Missing Flowchart followed.

Foster Carer. Residential Worker, Parent informs Social Worker / EDT of Missing Episode.

If there is no apparent risk to either the child/YP or the public / Location of the child/YP is known or thought to be known this can be classed as an Unauthorised Absence.

Residential Staff/Social Worker/EDT to open a Missing Episode on Liquid Logic.

- Demographics
- Additional
- Missing Person Record
- Missing Status – Away from Placement without Authorisation.

Foster Carer, Residential Staff, Parents should make all reasonable attempts to locate the child/YP with friends/relatives. This should include a search of the residence and the local area, and update Social Worker/EDT.

A record of the attempts to locate the child/YP should be recorded on Liquid Logic in the open Missing Episode.

Continuing unauthorised absence should be reviewed at regular intervals and at least every 6 hours. Consideration should be given as to whether or not to inform the police, particularly when an unauthorised overnight absence is approaching.

Record all considerations and outcomes in the open Missing Episode on Liquid Logic.

If the duration of the unauthorised absence reaches 12 hours, the child/YP **MUST** be reported to the police, and re-categorised as Missing.

If child/YP returns home prior to this point, then update liquid logic (at the point of return) to 'Found'.

- It is not a necessity to complete a Return Interview for episodes of Unauthorised Absence; however, if it transpires that such absences are occurring frequently or a pattern of absence is emerging, it would be good practice to carry out a Return Interview.
- If a child/YP does not have a Missing Persons Action Plan and Missing Person Risk Assessment, consideration should be given as to if these are now required. If these already exist, do they need amending?

Update the open episode within Liquid Logic and 'add' a new status of Missing. Liquid Logic has the ability to hold subsequent status's within one episode.