

Unaccompanied Children, Young People or Vulnerable Adults

Sometimes children, young people or vulnerable adults may attend worship or groups without the leader having contact with their parents/carer.

No hard and fast guidelines can be given, but the following points may assist:

- Establish whether the child, young person or vulnerable adult attends with their parent/carer's knowledge, or at least without their parents' objections. (The child, young person or vulnerable adult may be of a different denomination or religion.)
- Establish their address and contact details. Include these on the register. Provide information about the group to the child, young person or vulnerable adult to take to their parent/carer.
- Seek to secure parental consent to the child, young person or vulnerable adult's involvement, preferably by direct contact with the parent/carer rather than by using the child, young person or vulnerable adult as an intermediary.
- Bear in mind that a child, young person or vulnerable adult may have some special educational or health need which may not be easily evident, therefore sensitivity is needed.
- Do not include the child, young person or vulnerable adult on trips away from the normal place of meeting without explicit parental consent.
- If the child, young person or vulnerable adult does not attend after having attended frequently, it is appropriate to undertake some follow-up, but this should be done with sensitivity.

December 2016