

## WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, OHIO

### Baby-sitting for Non-family members

Contact the Family Child Care Program for information on classes and licensing requirements at 257-3542

### Child Supervision

Supervising your children is one of the most important things you can do. Children do best when they are raised in a home of structure, guidance, love and limits. Without these, children may grow up not knowing what they can and cannot do, whom to trust, and may do things that get them into trouble. The ultimate responsibility for their safety, care, well being and behavior of dependent children remains with the parent, whether they are present to personally supervise them or not.



The WPAFBI 34-101, dated January 2000 policy for unattended children is provided to assist parents in determining the appropriateness of leaving a child unattended. The policy is a cooperative effort by the following agencies.:

88 ABW Family Member Programs Flight  
88 ABW Airman and Family Readiness  
Center  
88 ABW Legal Office  
88 Security Forces  
88 MDOS Family Advocacy Program



# A Parents Guide for Unattended Children

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## Respect for Duty and Family

WPAFB 34-101 31 January 2000, in accordance with WPAFB Instruction 34-101 Children under 10 years of age will not be left in quarters, automobiles, or other locations unless under the supervision of a responsible individual 12 years or older.

The following instructions implements DoDI 6060.3 School Age Care (SAC) Program, paragraph 1.2, requiring establishment of a home alone or “self care” policy. This local policy concerns the responsibilities of all base affiliated sponsors for their dependents and guests. It is applicable to all personnel assigned or attached to Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio. The following policy for parents in making decisions regarding the care and supervision of their children. The age of the child is not the only factors parents should consider when determining if children should be left alone. Other factors include level of maturity, emotional development, physical health, length of time left alone, time of day Or night, other children present or to be supervised, location, and environmental conditions, frequency of being left alone and accessibility of parent or other responsible adult.



## AGE GUIDELINES

**0-5 Years Old:** Parent/caretaker can hear child at all times and see child frequently.

**6-9 Years Old:** Parent/caretaker is easily accessible at all times and knows the child’s location.

**10 Years Old:** Child may be left alone if there are no emotional or physical limitations and if the child is comfortable with the situation. The length of time the child is left alone depends on the child’s capabilities. Children of age to be left alone must be able to demonstrate knowledge of where their parents or other responsible adults are and how to reach them, knowledge of emergency procedures, and an ability to easily access and use a phone.

**Leaving a child under the age of 10 alone in a car at any time/anywhere is NOT acceptable.**

Individuals under 18 years of age who care for younger children are strongly encouraged to participate in a certified babysitters course. Since there are varying degrees of maturity in children, parents will ensure that older children who babysit have enough experience to care properly for younger children. They must be able to control the children in their care, understand actions to be taken, and take proper action for situations that may arise.



**12–13 Years Old:** Generally able to babysit for family members who are at least 4 years old. It is highly recommended they have successfully completed an approved babysitting course.

**14 Years Old and Over:** Generally able to babysit for family member infants, toddlers, and older children. It is highly recommended they have successfully completed an approved babysitting course.