

# Summary table: Information, participation and representation of unaccompanied children

| Operational standards and indicators on the reception conditions of unaccompanied minors |            |          |            |
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| Chapter  | Subchapter | Standard | Indicators |

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| <p>1. Information, participation and representation of unaccompanied children</p> | <p><b>1.1</b><br/>Information</p> | <p><b>1. Ensure unaccompanied children receive relevant information</b></p> | <p><b>1.1</b> Information has to be provided within a reasonable time not exceeding 1 month after the application for international protection has been lodged, of a minimum amount of established benefits and of the obligations of the child with which they must comply regarding reception conditions.</p> <p><b>1.2</b> Information should be provided free of charge.</p> <p><b>1.3</b> The information provided should address the questions of the unaccompanied child or the representative.</p> <p><b>1.4</b> Information covers all aspects of reception conditions concerning unaccompanied children, and at a minimum the right to reception, provision of material reception conditions (housing, food, clothing and daily allowances), access to healthcare, education, leisure activities, and arrangements for applicants for international protection with special needs if relevant.</p> <p><b>1.5</b> Information is provided according to the special needs and individual circumstances of the unaccompanied children.</p> <p><b>1.6</b> Information covers the roles and responsibilities of those working with unaccompanied children.</p> <p><b>1.7</b> Information should explain the obligation of appointing a representative in order to assist unaccompanied children with procedural issues and in their eventual return.</p> <p><b>1.8</b> Information covers the main steps of the procedure for international protection, incl. access to asylum procedure, legal assistance and how to access it, possibilities for family tracing, family reunification, voluntary return and appeal procedures that are relevant for her case.</p> |
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**2.** Ensure that unaccompanied children understand the relevant information.

**2.1** The information is provided in a child-friendly, age-appropriate and culturally sensitive manner.

**2.2** Information must be provided systematically during the process and evidence of this information provision should be documented (when it was provided, by whom, etc.).

**2.3** Interpreters and/or language mediators need to be available in reception facilities to allow communication with unaccompanied children in their native language

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| <p><b>1.2. Participation</b></p> | <p><b>3.</b> Ensure that children's views/opinions are considered and acted upon, according to their age and maturity.</p> | <p><b>3.1</b> Unaccompanied children are given safe and inclusive opportunities to express their views/opinions and for their views to be considered in line with age and maturity.</p> <p><b>3.2</b> A well-publicised, confidential and accessible procedure for internal complaints is established for unaccompanied children within the reception facility.</p> <p><b>3.3</b> Unaccompanied children are provided with feedback explaining how their input was considered and influenced actions at least once a month.</p> |
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1.3. Representation

- 4.** Ensure the representative is able to verify appointment of if the accommodation and a representative residential care arrangements as soon as possible adequate for the child's but no later than physical, mental, spiritual, within 15 working moral and social development. days from when the application **4.1** Ensure that the representative is able to verify if the accommodation and a representative residential care arrangements as soon as possible adequate for the child's but no later than physical, mental, spiritual, within 15 working moral and social development. days from when the application **4.2** Enable the representative for international to report any issues to the protection reception staff providing was made and housing to the child; enable him or involvement and consultation her to provide with cultural mediators should assistance to the be provided, where unaccompanied appropriate. child with actions **4.3** Enable the representative related to his/her to provide the child with legal obligations to provide the child with information on his/her rights and duties in relation to accommodation and material assistance and in this connection to assist the child to lodge a complaint where necessary.
- 4.4** Enable the representative to verify if the child is informed about the role and responsibilities of the personnel and the caregivers in accommodation facilities.
- 4.5** Enable the representative to verify that the child has effective access to the education system and that the child regularly attends classes.
- 4.6** Enable the representative to promote the child's access to leisure activities, including play and recreational activities appropriate to his/her age, maturity and interests.

**5.** Ensure that legal advisers or counsellors, persons representing international and the relevant NGOs recognised by the EU+ State concerned have adequate access to reception structures in order to assist unaccompanied children.

**5.1** The access of the actors above is only limited on grounds relating to the security of the premises and of the unaccompanied children, provided that it is not thereby severely restricted or rendered impossible.

**5.2** The actors listed above are able to meet and speak with the unaccompanied children in conditions ensuring adequate privacy

**6.** Ensure that a procedure is in place to start tracing the members of the unaccompanied child's family as soon as possible after arrival and identification, where necessary with the assistance of international or other relevant organisations, whilst protecting the child's best interests

**6.1** Reception authorities and/or other responsible staff including the representative initiate or start the family tracing based on the information given by the child and according to the best interests of the unaccompanied child.