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OCFS IN-PERSON VISITATION AGREEMENT

Parents participating in in-person visitation with children in OCFS custody must review and sign a copy of this visitation agreement prior to starting in-person visits. Once signed the visitation agreement and the procedures laid out within it apply for all in-person visits until you are notified otherwise by OCFS.

I. General

- a. All visit participants must be approved in advance by OCFS.
- b. OCFS encourages families to use and build their natural supports. If you have someone who you believe could supervise your visits, please notify your caseworker.

II. Exceptions to In-Person Visitation

- a. No in-person visit will occur if a visit participant (including the child, parent, and visit supervisor) is experiencing signs of illness, and/or has been instructed to quarantine or isolate.

III. Outdoor Visits

- a. Visits that are occurring outdoors no longer require face coverings.

IV. Indoor Visits

- a. OCFS will provide each parent and child participating in in-person visits with a cloth face covering.
- b. Children over the age of 2 are still expected to wear a mask indoors during visits. No visit will be cancelled due to a child's inability or unwillingness to wear their face covering.
- c. Fully vaccinated Americans do not need to wear face coverings indoors, effective May 24, 2021.
- d. Consistent with the U.S. CDC's guidelines, it is recommended that people in Maine who are not fully vaccinated wear face coverings in indoor public settings.
- e. It is recommended that all adult visitors, including fully vaccinated adults wear a mask indoors to role model for children that are still required to wear a mask.

V. **Transportation**

- a. No visit participant should be transported by anyone who is sick or self-isolating due to close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who suspects they may have COVID-19.
- b. It is recommended that everyone over age 2 who is unvaccinated in the vehicle wear a cloth face covering if there is anyone in the vehicle who is not a member of their household.
- c. If weather permits, the car windows should be opened slightly to allow for air flow.

VI. **Pre-Screening**

- a. Before each visit the visit supervisor will contact the parent to review the Pre- Screening Health Questions (Attachment A). If the parent answers yes to any of the pre-screening questions, the in-person visit will be postponed, and telephone or video conference visits will be held until the risk of coronavirus transmission has resolved.
- b. Resource parents are expected to pre-screen the child(ren) before leaving for the visit. All other visit participants are expected to pre-screen themselves before leaving for the visit.
- c. Questions to consider include, have I (or has the child):
 - i. Been in close contact with anyone with COVID-19 in the last 10 days? (People who are vaccinated do not need to quarantine if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19)
 - ii. Experienced any of these symptoms in the last few days-regardless of COVID-19 vaccination status):
 1. Cough;
 2. Fever;
 3. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
 4. Chills;
 5. Repeated shaking with chills;
 6. Muscle or body aches;
 7. Headache;
 8. Sore throat;
 9. New loss of taste or smell;
 10. Congestion or runny nose not from known allergies;
 11. Nausea or vomiting; or
 12. Diarrhea.

- d. If the answer to any of the above questions is yes, the person should not attend the visit in-person. The caseworker and/or supervisor should be notified immediately.
- e. When answering these questions, a visit participant or resource parent should consider whether anyone in their or the child's household has experienced any of these signs or symptoms in the last 10 days. If so, the visit participant or child should not attend the visit in person and the caseworker and/or supervisor should be notified immediately.

VII. Visit Supervision

- a. Visit supervisors are expected to immediately end the in-person visit if a visit participant begins exhibiting signs or symptoms of COVID-19.

VIII. Visit Procedure

a. Handwashing/Use of Hand Sanitizer

- i. All visit participants (including the supervisor of the visit, parent, child, and any other visit participant) will be required to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer:
 - 1. At the beginning of the visit;
 - 2. After any visit to the bathroom (whether for themselves or to assist a child);
 - 3. After diapering;
 - 4. Before and after preparing food, snacks, or drinks;
 - 5. Before and after eating food, handling food, or feeding children;
 - 6. After playing outdoors;
 - 7. After blowing one's nose or helping a child blow their nose;
 - 8. After sneezing or coughing;
 - 9. After coming into contact with any bodily fluid; and
 - 10. After handling garbage or cleaning up.
- ii. Family Visitation Providers will make every effort to have hand sanitizer available during the visit, but hand sanitizer should not be considered an alternative to hand washing.
- iii. Parents and visit supervisors should be encouraged to engage the children in frequent hand washing during the visit.
- iv. Parents and visit supervisor should encourage children not to touch their own eyes, nose, or mouth or the eyes, nose, or mouth of others during the visit. This should be done in an age-appropriate manner that considers the developmental level of the child.

b. Toys and activities

Due to the need to minimize the spread of coronavirus and the difficulty of sanitizing fully between each visit, there will be no toys or activities available at the visit center.

- i. Toys should be brought by parents and/or resource parents. All toys must be disinfected before use.
- ii. No toys should be brought to visits if they cannot be cleaned, sanitized, or washed before and after the visit.
- iii. Children’s books and other paper-based materials are not considered to be a high risk for transmission. They may be brought to the visit and do not require cleaning or disinfecting before use.
- iv. Resource parents bringing toys to visits should immediately sanitize the toys upon returning home.

c. Food and Drinks

- i. Parents bringing food and/or drinks for their child are expected to prepare these items with clean hands in a sanitary environment and transport them in closed containers that are clean.
- ii. Parents should minimize eating and drinking during visitation.

d. Cleaning procedures

- i. Before each visit held in an OCFS office or visitation center, staff will thoroughly clean and disinfect the space including, all furniture, bathrooms, door handles and handrails, etc.

I have read the above Visitation Agreement and had the opportunity to ask questions regarding any portions of the Agreement I am unsure about. I understand the requirements outlined in this Agreement are critically important to ensuring my health and safety, as well as the health and safety of my child(ren), their caregivers, and any other visit participants. I further understand that failure to abide by the requirements in this Agreement could result in the immediate termination of an in-person visit and/or the suspension of in-person visits scheduled in the future. I agree to abide by the requirements of this Agreement.

Visit Participant

Date