

VISITATION - LEVEL A-D

(see next page for LEVEL E-I)

CONTINUUM OF CONTACT

Level A

Supervised visitation - FP drives child to the agency or agreed upon neighborhood site. FP greets BP and worker and then FP departs. The FP returns to pick-up child at the end of the visit.

Level B

Supervised visitation - FP drives child to the agency or agreed upon neighborhood site. FP greets BP and worker and joins visitation. FP models parenting skills as appropriate to previously established roles and responsibilities.

Level C

Supervised visitation - FP drives child to the agency and joins the visit. The worker is not in the room.

Level D

Unsupervised visitation at the agency or agreed upon neighborhood site. FP greets BP and departs. FP picks-up child at the end of the visit.

Roles and Responsibilities of FOSTER PARENTS

To approach BP with the respect. Polite greeting, small talk about how the child is doing, share the "big" events in the child's week. To put the BP at ease, reduce defensiveness by FP's demeanor. To act in ways that speak to a helping relationship. Prep as mentor, establishing a helping rapport.

Skills Needed of FOSTER PARENTS

Understanding of abuse and neglect. Ability to separate the parent from the act. Ability to forgive, be compassionate, and to acknowledge and respect the child's psychological attachment to the parent.

Roles and Responsibilities of FOSTER PARENTS

Act as mentor in a structured environment with SW's support. Polite greeting, small talk, sharing events in child's life. Model appropriate parental behaviors (e.g., "time out" method). Debrief with SW, describing BP's behavior using behavioral language.

Skills Needed of FOSTER PARENTS

Understanding of C/AN. Ability to separate the parent from the act. Ability to manage frustration in an appropriate manner, to forgive, be compassionate and to acknowledge and respect the child's psychological attachment to the parent. Coaching communication skills; ability to explain why you approach child in certain ways; patience. Ability to articulate observations, using behavioral language. Coaching instructions in a non-threatening manner. Conflict resolution and crisis management skills.

CCBIT Competencies for FP

All competencies as listed under the following are related to Visitation:
Pre-Service: CORE 901, 902, 903, 904, 905. Critical Others: 910, 912, 913.

CCBIT Competencies for FP

All competencies as listed in Level A and: 914, 915, 940.

Roles and Responsibilities of SOCIAL WORKER

To facilitate introductions and interaction between FP and BP. To schedule/provide training and support to FPs as they strive to approach the BP in a constructive manner. Return calls, attend joint meetings, invite to meeting with plenty of advance notice, follow-up after meetings to debrief, arrange transportation as needed. Discuss what is/is not appropriate behavior at visits.

Roles and Responsibilities of SOCIAL WORKER

Same as Level A, plus provide training and support to the foster parents on Coaching For Parental Skillbuilding with parents, training on ways to show empathy, training on managing conflict. Return calls, attend joint meeting to debrief with both sets of parents. Arrange transportation as needed.

Roles and Responsibilities of BIRTH PARENTS

Attend visitations on time. Come prepared to interact with child(ren). Bring snack to visitations. Work with SW on effective parenting within the context of the visit.

Roles and Responsibilities of BIRTH PARENTS

Demonstrate a willingness to work with FP on parental skillbuilding. Be open to guidance on how to support child in doing homework, playing, etc.. Willingness to take direction, ability to listen.

