

CIRCULAR

Date: June 22, 2020

CIRCULAR NUMBER: COVID#: 2020-85

To: CFS Authorities, CYSD Staff

Subject: **Face to face contact and visitation - UPDATE**

Program(s): All CFS Agencies

Type: Policy For Internal Reference Only
 Procedure Information Only

Effective Date Immediately

Topic: Face to face contact and visitation with children and families

CFS Authorities and agencies are aware of the importance of contact for children with family and community, and have been working hard to accommodate it in alternate forms during Covid-19 response.

Manitoba Public Health is incrementally changing restrictions on person to person contact. This means that CFS agencies may permit face to face contact for children, including participating in limited school openings, and structured resumption of family visits in person where it is part of a family plan. These visits may now occur inside while observing safety precautions.

Agencies have already started to respond to the increased ability to facilitate important in person contacts. Agencies who have concerns or questions about how to ensure they resume in person and inside contacts safely may approach their Authorities for assistance and direction.

Agencies should continue to follow public health guidelines about ensuring they ask screening questions before permitting a visit, use of physical distancing during a visit, and observing proper hand hygiene. Staff should continue to follow directions about limiting exposure and follow the service practice guidelines distributed.

Up to date information may be found at <https://manitoba.ca/covid19/>.

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