







Working Together for the Sake of the Child

A Continuum of Shared Parenting Practices

Here are some steps that resource *and* birth parents can take to build positive working relationships with each other for the sake of the child.

Please make sure to **always** consult with the **ongoing social worker** before each new step.

Step 1	Step 2	Step 3	Step 4	Step 5	Step 6
<p><u>Request or Provide BASIC INFORMATION</u> about key people in the child's life.</p>	<p>Request <i>or</i> Accept opportunities to <u>CONNECT WITH KEY PEOPLE</u> in the child's life.</p>	<p>Request <i>or</i> Provide <u>WRITTEN UPDATES</u> about the child.</p>	<p>Request <i>or</i> Provide <u>PHONE UPDATES</u> about the child.</p>	<p>Request <i>or</i> Provide <u>FACE-TO-FACE CONTACT</u> to provide updates about the child.</p>	<p>Request <i>or</i> Provide opportunities to <u>VISIT THE CHILD</u> and be an on-going support to the child & the primary caregivers.</p>
					
<p><u>Take interest in the child's relationships with others</u> and try to understand why relationships is important to the child.</p>	<p><u>Request a Family Link "icebreaker"</u> and participate in the facilitated parent-to-parent conversation about the child.</p> <p>You can inquiry about and/or request an icebreaker via www.dcfapac.org/FamilyLink</p>	<p><u>Pass notes</u> via the social worker or an approved third party representative.</p> <p><u>Communicate via email address</u> (note: you can create an address specifically for child updates)</p> <p><u>Send snail mail</u> with return address for social worker or our home.</p>	<p><u>Communicate directly via phone.</u> If you do not feel comfortable releasing your personal contact information consider: (1) blocking your caller ID when calling out, (2) using a pre-paid phone number, (3) using a google voice number.</p>	<p><u>Schedule video calls</u> on smart phone or computer.</p> <p><u>Plan to overlap</u> at child visits, meetings, and appointments.</p>	<p><u>Visits outside the home</u> (i.e. park or library)</p> <p><u>Visits in the home</u> and/or at family functions.</p> <p><u>Be a positive life-long connection</u> for the child.</p>



Family Link is a partnership between FAPAC and CFSA. For more information about Family Link, visit www.dcfapac.org/FamilyLink.