

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, Philadelphia DHS Commissioner Kimberly Ali has issued the following directives as they relate to in person visitation and contact between staff and children and families. Please see below for further detail:

Child Welfare:

1. Regular monthly visits between caseworker and children and youth in placement shall occur via video conferencing. If video conferencing is not available, then a face to face visit must occur.
2. Weekly visits between caseworkers and children and families who receive in home services shall occur via video conference. If a family is unable to video conference, an in-home visit must occur in order to assess for child safety.
3. Visitation between children in placement and their parents and sibling(s) shall be done via video conferencing. If a parent or a child does not have the capability to connect via video, telephone contact between the child and parent is to occur. If the parent/child does not have the ability to connect via video or a telephone, an in person visit must occur in accordance with existing Court orders.

Philadelphia Juvenile Justice Services Center (PJJSC):

1. All contact between parents/guardians and youth are modified from in person to phone contact until further notice. Phone calls are now increased to daily.
2. All people (including staff and vendors) entering the PJJSC are currently being screened for COVID-19 symptoms (including a temperature check).