

## MODEL SCHEDULE FOR DAILY TELEPHONIC AND OTHER NON - "IN PERSON" CONTACT AND COMMUNICATION

It is the goal of shared parental responsibility to foster a "whole," healthy emotionally well balanced Child, despite the fact that the Child's parents may choose to legally terminate their relationship with one another. The parents must confer with each other so that major decisions affecting the child(ren) are made jointly, issues dealing with school, discipline, religious upbringing, and health are examples of areas where the parents must confer. **Each parent is entitled to the child's medical, dental and school records.** Florida Statute #61.13(2)(b)(3) specifically requires that "access to records and information pertaining to a minor child, including, but not limited to medical records may not be denied to a parent because the parent is not the child's primary residential parent." Aside from physical "in-person" contact with each parent, it is important to the emotional development and stability of the parties' Child(ren) to maintain continuing contact and communication with the "absent parent". For purposes of this **MODEL SCHEDULE** the term "absent parent" is defined as the parent who does not have actual, present, physical custody of the Child(ren); and the "non-absent parent" is reciprocally defined as the parent who does have actual, present, physical custody of the Child(ren).

The nature and frequency that the non-physical "in-person" contact and communication should vary based upon the age, maturity, activities and special needs of each Child. It is not the goal of such contact and communication to be abusive in the sense that is it unreasonably intrusive upon the non-absent parent's time with the Child(ren) or the Child(ren)'s daily regimen,(i.e., mealtime, bedtime, etc.); nor is it to be used as a mechanism to track the activities /life style of the non-absent parent. Reciprocally, the absent parent and Child(ren) have the expectation and right to privacy in their communication. This means that the non-absent parent is not permitted to listen in or "hover" during said communication. If the communication is telephonic, it shall not be tape recorded by the non-absent parent; nor shall it occur on speaker phone.

Each parent shall provide his or her telephone number , and if the Child(ren) is/are not going to be at home then the non-absent parent shall provide the cellular telephone number and/or alternate telephone number at which time the Child(ren) may be contacted.

**Non-absent and absent parents should agree on a specific time within the allotted time range to make telephone or any other live person to person contact, i.e "real-time instant Messaging",** or other computer assisted live communication devices, i.e. video cam, etc.. E-mail may best be considered as regular mail.

1.
  - A. Reasonable telephonic communication for toddlers (generally, a child from **age 1 year - 3 1/2 years of age**) is defined as Conversation on the telephone for toddlers requires the fundamental assistance of the non-absent parent in the form of holding the telephone to the child's ear, encouraging the child to listen to the telephone, encouraging the child to speak on the telephone ,telling the child who is on the telephone etc. **Time frame should be from 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M., up to 5 minutes.**
  - B. Reasonable telephonic communication with pre-school aged Child(ren) (Generally, a child from age **3 ½ years - 5 years of age**) is defined as: **Time frame should be 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M 5 to 10 minutes.**
  - C. Reasonable and private communication (defined as telephonic but also possibly instant Messaging and vimeo web cam) for early elementary school aged Child(ren) (Generally, a child from **6 years to 8 years of age**) is defined as: **Time frame should be from 6:00 P.M. to 7:30 P.M. 5 to 15 minutes.**
  - D. Reasonable and private communication(defined as telephonic, but also possibly as instant Messaging and video web cam) for late elementary school aged Child(ren). (Generally, a child from **9 years to 12 years of age**) is defined as: **Time frame should be from 6:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. 10 to 20 minutes.**
  - E. Reasonable and private communication(defined as telephonic, but also possibly instant Messaging and video web cam) for adolescent aged Child(ren). (Generally, a child from **13 years -17 years of age**) is defined as: **Time frame should be from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. 10 minutes to 30 minutes.**
2. While the Children are age 1 to12 years, it is the burden of the non-absent parent to ensure that the Child(ren) are ready and available to receive telephonic contact and communication, with the burden being placed on the absent parent to initiate the contact and communication.

3. Once the Child(ren) attain the age of 13 years, the initiation of telephonic or other contact and communication may be initiated by **either the absent parent or the Child(ren).**

4. The Mother's home telephone number is: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Mother's cellular telephone number is: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Father's home telephone number is: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Father's cellular telephone number is: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Child(ren)'s telephone Number (**Only complete if the Child(ren) has/have a telephone solely used by the Child(ren):** \_\_\_\_\_

Alternate telephone number(s) for contact and communication with the Child(ren):

The Mother's e-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Father's e-mail address is: \_\_\_\_\_  
The Child(ren)'s e-mail address (**Only complete if the Child(ren) has/have a separate e-mail address solely used by the Child(ren):** \_\_\_\_\_

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