



## Example Script

### Discussing Options for Home Visits

The decision to meet with a child and family in person or via tele-intervention should be made in concert with the family. The decision should also be considered fluid, in that it can change over time or from visit to visit, and is based on the current needs of the family, the status of COVID-19 in the community, and the safety of both the family and provider. It is also important to note that services and location of services are individualized for each child and family, which has always been a cornerstone of service provision and is not a change due to the pandemic.

Talking Points with families:

- Individualize decision making from visit to visit
  - Use of KITS decision tree for discussions **with** a family.
- Individualize decision making based on family needs
- Based on current family activity(ies) and routine(s) that support the current child and family outcome(s)
- Safety considerations for both the family and provider
- Location
  - Tele-intervention
  - In the home
  - Outside, in the community or the family's backyard
- If the decision is to meet in person, discuss:
  - Pre-screening questions
    - recent travel, any symptoms, possible exposure
  - PPE
    - face masks and/or other protective equipment
  - Expectations of visit
    - physical distancing

A sample way to phrase this information:

*There are many important factors to consider when determining when and where we meet. One important factor is that you and I will decide together which activity or routine you want to focus on based on the outcomes you have chosen. That activity or routine may need to be supported using various methods due to the pandemic. Some factors that we will now need to take into account include health recommendations/regulations in place, comfort level of both of us, and the safety of everyone involved. If either one of us are uncomfortable with meeting in person at any time we will continue services through tele-intervention. Due to the current pandemic we also will need to consider these factors as part of our joint planning at the end of each visit as well as revisit this before we meet for our next visit. Since we know children are learning all the time in their everyday activities, we will continue to try to meet you in those places and during those activities you identify as learning opportunities. Just know the method we use may need to vary between tele-intervention to in person visits. I have worked with families in a variety of places and in a variety of methods (phone, zoom, face to face) based on what we want to accomplish. (Insert example specific to family's activity settings). Even though the methods we use may change, the focus on activities and routines we use to help you and other people in your child's life remains the same.*

Other additional content for clarification:

- Depending on the family activity be mindful of whether you can social distance or not.
  - For example, if working on bath time, social distancing in the family's bathroom maybe difficult. This may be an activity better addressed with tele-intervention. There are other activities that could be done in a home and still maintain social distancing. For example, if a child was learning to play with toys many rooms in family's homes could possibly be big enough to social distance.
- Porch Visits: If conducting "porch visits" the expectation is still to work on a routine or activity identified by the family that is typically done by the families at a time they would typically do that activity. Meeting in one location could be difficult in that it will limit what the provider and family could work on. This is similar to the limitations of meeting at the same time every visit. One way to make sure the visit is still beneficial is having a discussion with the family. Asking questions in regards to what would the family typically be doing at that time and that location? How is that going to support their child's participation and promote learning beyond the visit with the provider? How does this activity support the outcome(s) they want to meet?
- Child Care: If a child is seen at a child care program, provider(s) should still be rotating visits between home and the child care center so they can all work together and share what is happening in these settings. Child care will have their own procedures that will need to be followed and considered when determining which method is used.

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