

**CLINTON COUNTY JOB AND FAMILY SERVICES
FOSTER CARE PROGRAM
POLICY ON SOCIALIZATION AND EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN
IN OUT-OF-HOME SETTINGS**

Policy: The agency has established the following policy in accordance with Rule 5101:2-7-11 of the Ohio Administrative Code. It is the purpose of the policy to mandate that foster caregivers shall ensure that the socialization and educational needs of foster children in their care are met in the following manner:

- A. A foster caregiver shall allow privileges and assign responsibilities to a foster child similar to those which would be assigned to a family member of the foster caregiver who is of similar age and functioning level.
- B. A foster caregiver shall make arrangements with the placing agency for each school-aged foster child to attend a school which complies with the minimum standards as prescribed by the state board of education and shall ensure that the foster child attends school in accordance with the child care agreement. A foster caregiver that provides home schooling for a foster child shall do so only with the approval of the child's custodial agency. Any home schooling program used by a foster caregiver shall be approved by the public school district in which the caregiver resides.
- C. A foster caregiver shall encourage a foster child to participate in community, school, recreational, and cultural heritage activities which are appropriate to the child's age and functioning level and shall, as is necessary and reasonable, arrange appropriate transportation for the foster child to and from such activities.
- D. A foster caregiver shall permit a foster child to practice the chosen religious faith of the foster child or the foster child's parents, unless it is determined and documented in the child's caseplan by the custodial agency that it is not in the child's best interest; and a foster caregiver shall not subject a foster child to any form of religious coercion.
- E. A foster child shall not be baptized or submitted to any religious procedures without prior consent of the child according to their age and functioning level and prior to approval of the foster child's parent, guardian or custodian.
- F. A foster caregiver shall, as appropriate, teach a foster child tasks and skills required for life in the community.

Submitted by:

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Approved by:

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