## **GRADUATED VISITATION**

Visits are unsupervised unless court-ordered to be supervised. The levels of supervision are:



**HIGH-RISK** visits require 1:1 supervision by the SW or PSA only. Family Visitation Centers (FVCs) cannot supervise high-risk visits. The SW/PSA must have **constant** visual and auditory contact with all parent/child interactions, which must be in a language the SW/PSA understands. **REMINDER!** Just because a referral/case is assessed as <a href="high risk">high risk</a>, that doesn't necessarily mean its *visits* are <a href="high risk">high risk</a>.

**MEDIUM-HIGH-RISK** visits require **1:1 supervision** by the SW or designee\*. Whoever supervises the visits must have **constant** visual and auditory contact with all parent/child interactions, which must be in a language the supervisor understands.

**MEDIUM-RISK** visits are monitored by the SW or designee\*, with closer supervision than low-risk visits. When at a FVC, the visits are held in groups of up to 4 families.

**LOW-RISK** visits are monitored by the SW or designee\*. When at a FVC, the visits are held in groups of up to 8 families.

\* Designees may be PSAs, caregivers, FVC staff, or any other responsible adult the SW believes can ensure the child's emotional and physical safety.

Whenever visitation is supervised, the SW will, at least once every 60 days:

- reassess for the lowest level of supervision necessary to ensure safe and appropriate visits (the <u>04-37</u>, "Topics for Discussion of Visitation at Supervisory Meeting", can help)
- discuss issues with PSS and document the reason(s) for maintaining or changing the level.

Visitation normally becomes less risky as the parents demonstrate acts of protection over time. Parents should be given more parental responsibility as the visits get closer to being unsupervised.

**REMINDER**: Even when visits are **un**supervised, the SW must continue to reassess safety and appropriateness. If the SW discovers that the level of risk has increased, the SW will discuss the issues with his/her PSS and take appropriate action.