

TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

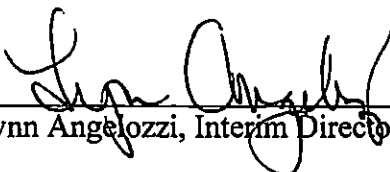
INTERNET AND CELL PHONE USAGE BY CHILDREN IN THE CUSTODY OF TUSCARAWAS COUNTY JOB & FAMILY SERVICES

POLICY

Tuscarawas County Job & Family Services will make the use of the Internet and the ability of foster children to have cell phones available as a privilege for children in agency custody and will take the necessary precautions to ensure that the children are not subjected to undue danger while engaging in the use of the same.

PROCEDURE

1. A foster child may earn the privilege of having a family cell phone. Use of the same will be restricted to appropriate times, such as after school, at the discretion of the foster parents or the child's case worker. Foster parents and the child's case worker retain the right to review the call and text history, if applicable, of the child at any time. Children should turn the cell phones into foster parents when not in use. The foster parents and the agency retain the ability to restrict or eliminate cell phone usage by foster children when warranted by their behavior and other circumstances.
2. Foster parents are encouraged to have the child use the Internet in a public area within the home. Foster parents should frequently check the history of sites visited by foster children to ensure the sites are appropriate.
3. Any passwords obtained to log onto a computer or any site must be given to the foster parents to allow them access to the child's Internet activities.
4. Social networking sites. May only be used with the consent of the foster parents or case worker. If a child is permitted to use these sites, he/she must allow the foster parent or case worker access to log onto the site and an opportunity to review the child's activities and listing of friends.
5. Any inappropriate behavior may result in privileges being revoked.
6. Any foster parent who is concerned about the Internet or cell phone activities of their foster child is encouraged to contact the child's case manager for assistance in answering any questions or discussing any particular issues.


Lynn Angelozzi, Interim Director


Effective Date