



# Department of Early Education and Care

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

## Family Child Care Licensing

### **POLICY STATEMENT: Supervision**

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606 CMR 7.10, *Supervision*, outlines the requirements for supervising children in care in a variety of situations. Generally, the regulations require that the educator directly supervise the child care children at all times. Direct supervision means that the educator is able to see or hear the children without interference. However, there are circumstances which arise in child care which may not be addressed specifically in Family Child Care Licensing regulations. In these situations, the regulations require that the caregiver use good judgment according to current EEC policy. Some examples of these circumstances are the following:

- using another floor level or unapproved space to nap the provider's own child;
- using the bathroom facilities;
- helping a child use the bathroom;
- diapering a child;
- answering the door;
- feeding infants/children;
- preparing meals and snacks;
- escorting a child between the family child care home and a vehicle.

### **Providers are always responsible for keeping children safe. With that in mind, providers must:**

- make sure every child is in a hazard free environment;
- use good judgment, taking into consideration the age, maturity level, and any special needs or circumstances of the children in their care;
- assure that doors are kept ajar when child care children are napping and open when children are playing in separate rooms;
- make special accommodations for supervising child care children when a child being cared for in the family child care home is mildly ill, or when a child becomes ill during child care hours;
- closely monitor the use of bathroom facilities by the children;
- use good judgment when their own children are being napped in a room which is not part of the licensed space or is not on the floor level where the child care children are playing, eating, or napping; and
- take special precautions to ensure the safety of all children when there is a child care child who is unusually aggressive or active or exhibits behavior difficulties.