

# Frequently asked questions: Practice Strategies for Lifelong Connections - Caregivers

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What changes will I see?

Increased consistency in practice being delivered across the province. There will be a focus on connections from the beginning of involvement, and throughout a child or youth's time in-care.

Why is this important?

These practice shifts are supported by research, evidence from evaluations, and direct feedback from stakeholders. These shifts in day-to-day practice, will support long-term connections for children, youth, families and communities; in ensuring the health and well-being for children and youth who come into the care of the government.

What does this mean for children and/or youth?

Children and youth in-care will have more meaningful opportunities to create and maintain relationships. Their well-being, safety, and development will benefit from a holistic approach to connections (physical, legal, relational, and cultural). This is especially important for children and youth who have been previously disconnected from their family or community.

What is my role?

Caregivers are an essential part of the team. This includes facilitating connections for children and youth in your care to people that are important to them. It also includes participating with and supporting the child/youth in their connection to cultural, religious and or spiritual practices that honour their heritage.

What else do I need to know?

This shift in practice requires that we are all creative and flexible in meeting the needs of families, children and youth. These strategies will mean that transitions for children and youth are better planned, including how to maintain relationships with previous caregivers. Keep in mind that more thoughtful planning means that transitions and other processes may require more time