



Office of Children and Family Services

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

SHEILA J. POOLE
Commissioner

January 11, 2022

Dear Provider:

As temperatures drop and we experience record cold across the state, it is critically important to be mindful of the impact the weather can have on our children. Please take this opportunity to remind parents and staff to provide winter clothing daily and to avoid prolonged exposure to the outdoors.

Also, when transporting children, parents and staff must check the vehicle prior to exiting to ensure no child is left unattended. As you know, children often fall asleep during transportation. In addition to face-to-name attendance, a thorough sweep to the back of the vehicle is required. Just as excessive heat can be life threatening to children in the summertime, prolonged exposure to the cold may have tragic results.

Lastly, if a child you were expecting does not arrive to program in the morning, make an immediate call to the parent or transportation department to check on the child's whereabouts. If the child was accidentally left in a vehicle, your outreach may be the alarm that leads to the child's safe recovery.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this potentially life-saving matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Janice Molnar".

Janice Molnar, Ph.D.
Deputy Commissioner
Division of Child Care Services