

## **Resumption of Court Proceedings at Family Court**

Details of the resumption of court proceedings at Family Court (“FC”) starting from 4 May 2020 are set out below.

2. In line with usual practice, parties will be separately notified of any change in the date and other arrangement of the hearing of their cases, regardless of whether the hearing has been affected by the General Adjourned Period.

### **3. Civil proceedings in the Family Court (“FC”)**

#### *(a) Proceedings listed for hearing in the FC in May and June 2020*

(i) They will proceed as scheduled unless directed otherwise; and

(ii) Any party who is not ready to proceed with the hearing of the case shall apply as soon as practicable to the presiding judge/master (“JJO”) for an adjournment. Unless otherwise directed, the application will be processed on the papers.

#### *(b) Alternative modes of hearing*

In view of the need to reduce oral hearings in court buildings due to public health considerations, in appropriate cases, JJOs may give directions for the case to be determined on the papers, or heard by the use of VCF. Directions for alternative mode of hearing will be communicated to the parties in good time. In the absence of such directions, oral hearings will take place

with the parties or their legal representatives present in court.

(c) Lodging of documents through dedicated email accounts and e-Lodgement Platform

(i) Parties or legal representatives may submit documents to the Duty Judge through the following dedicated one-way “no-reply” email account at [fc dutyjudge@judiciary.hk](mailto:fc dutyjudge@judiciary.hk), which will be open until further notice.

(ii) Parties and legal representatives are reminded to :

(1) contact the Duty Judge concerned by telephone before sending their documents to the court electronically; and

(2) refrain from telephoning the Duty Judge after office hours (i.e. from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. from Mondays to Fridays), unless it is really necessary; and

(iii) Parties and legal representatives may lodge written submissions, authorities, hearing bundles and other documents as directed by JJOs to the FC through the e-Lodgement Platform.

**Judiciary Administration**  
**29 April 2020**