

CHILDREN'S SAFETY IN THE LIBRARY POLICY

Children are welcome in the library. While the Library provides a safe and friendly environment for all its users, it is a public building where people enter and leave freely without staff monitoring.

- Library staff cannot supervise individuals.
- Children under the age of ten cannot be left unattended or unsupervised in the building.
- Unattended children in the library are expected to be mature enough to follow the Library Code of Conduct and take responsibility for their own safety without an adult.
- While attending a program, meeting, or using the building's facilities, parents, guardians and caregivers are responsible for the safety and behavior of their minor children. Such adults are expected to set age-appropriate limits and observe necessary precautions for the safety and enjoyment of their children and others.
- Providing appropriate transportation for children to and from the library is the responsibility of parents, guardians, and caregivers. Such adults should be aware of library business hours and plan accordingly.
- Library staff will assist a child in contacting a parent, guardian and/or caregiver prior to closing time.
- Library staff cannot provide for the transportation needs of library users.
- If safe transportation cannot be provided within 15 minutes after closing, library staff will have the option of contacting law enforcement to request safe transportation for the child to a safe place.

Appropriate supervision provided by parents, guardians, and caregivers assists in creating a pleasant and safe place for Library users of all ages. Caregivers must be at least 15 years old to supervise a child in the library. Together we can provide a positive and friendly place for everyone.

Adopted and approved 8/10/2017, reviewed and affirmed 7/08/2021, 11/9/2023