



Youth Services: Library Uses and Supervision Guidelines

For the *protection and well-being* of the children who enjoy our library, the following policies have been adopted.

Unsupervised Children

Definition: A child left in the library unaccompanied by a responsible person (parent, adult caregiver or mature adolescent).

1. No child under the age of ten (10) shall be permitted to remain in the Library unless a responsible person fourteen (14) years of age or older is on the premises.

This is intended as a **guideline** for staff. The Board recognizes that some children's behavior can be more mature at an earlier age and therefore expect the *staff* to use good judgment in adhering to the policy.

2. Unattended children ten (10) and older must be able to provide the telephone number of a parent or caregiver who can be contacted in the event of an emergency.

Unsupervised Children (At non-emergency closing)

1. No child under the age of fourteen (14) shall be permitted to remain alone on Library premises – (outside the building).

Library Code of Conduct

1. No child ten (10) and older who is unattended and whose behavior, *in the judgment of the staff member in charge*, jeopardizes that child's health, safety and welfare, or interferes with the proper operation of the Library, will be permitted to remain in the library.
2. If a supervised child is disruptive, both the child and their caregiver will be asked to leave the Library. Parents, not the Library Staff, are responsible for the behavior of their children.
3. The Library unconditionally reserves the right to seek intervention of police and/or appropriate social service agencies in circumstances of emergency, illness, early Library closing, or when a child causes substantial disruption to Library operations and the enjoyment of Library facilities.