

Unattended Children

For the protection and well-being of children who visit the library, the following policy has been established. Children are expected to follow the Customer Behavior Policy in the same manner as adult customers.

Children 8 and Younger

Children ages 8 and younger may not be left unattended in any part of the Library for any duration of time, including the library entry, bathroom, and children's play area. If children under the age of 8 are found without an adult, staff will attempt to locate the parent or other caregiver and communicate the Unattended Children Policy. If a caregiver cannot be located, it is the Library's responsibility to call emergency services.

Children 9 and Older

Children ages 9 and older may visit the library unattended. Library staff will not act as guardians or caretakers, and cannot assume responsibility for the safety of children while in the library. Parents are responsible for a child's behavior, including during a child's visit without a parent.

If problems arise, library staff will attempt to find the parent or caregiver in the library or call the child's home. All children must have contact information for their parent or caregiver. It is the responsibility of the parent or caregiver to be accessible to pick up the child at any time. If a parent or caregiver cannot be located, the child may be asked within reason to return home. If the child cannot reasonably be expected to return home, it is the Library's responsibility to call emergency services.

Unattended Children After-Hours

Children who are left unattended at closing time may be deemed at risk. If a parent or caregiver does not arrive by 15 minutes after closing, staff will contact emergency services.

- Adopted May 21, 2019
- Revised October 14, 2025