

Safe Child and Vulnerable Adults Policy

(See also Conduct Policy)

The library is a public building and all patrons, including minors, are welcome. However, at no time will the Library assume the responsibility of a surrogate care provider for children or vulnerable adults in the Library. A vulnerable adult is defined as a person over the age of 18 who is unable or unwilling to care for themselves. The library does not have staff, training, or State Certification to act as a childcare facility or in lieu of trained staff or family for vulnerable adults. There is no adult supervision outdoors at any time except during outdoor programming as advertised.

All children under the age of 6 years of age must have a parent or caregiver present in the library at all times. A caregiver is defined as someone 13 years of age or older who has the mental and physical capacity to care for the child should an emergency arise. Children between the ages of 6 and 8 years should not be left unattended for more than one hour or the length of a supervised library program.

Staff will intervene when children or vulnerable adults are left unattended and if issues relating to safety and well-being or disruptive behaviors occur.

In the event a child under 6 years of age is left unattended or a child between the ages of 6 and 8 years is left unattended for more than one hour, or if the child or vulnerable adult is disruptive or needs supervision, the staff will attempt to contact a parent, guardian, or other caregiver. If a parent, guardian, or caregiver cannot be located within one half hour, or if the library is closing, the police will be called to assume responsibility for the child.

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