

Unattended Children and Vulnerable Adults

Caregivers are responsible for the behavior and supervision of their children or vulnerable adults regardless of age while in the library or on library property. Library staff will not be expected to supervise or monitor children's behavior. Library staff will attempt to contact a caregiver while the library is open when: the health or safety of an unattended child or vulnerable adult is in doubt, a child or vulnerable adult is frightened while alone at the library, or the behavior of an unattended child or vulnerable adult is disruptive or violates library policy.

Children under the age of 8 must be attended by a responsible caregiver. The caregiver must be at least 16 years old and should remain in the library at all times. If a child under the age of 8 is attending a library-sponsored program on the premises, the caregiver is to remain on the premises for the duration of the program. Staff will not be responsible if unattended children of any age or vulnerable adults leave the library premises alone or with other persons.

Patrons of any age who, because of developmental disability, mental illness, or physical disability, require supervision or personal care shall be attended by a caregiver at all times.

Unattended Children and Vulnerable Adults at Closing.

If a caregiver cannot be reached by closing time or fails to arrive by closing time, the library staff will attempt to call the caregiver. At least two library staff members will remain with the unattended child or vulnerable adult until he or she is picked up. If the caregiver is not available by phone and there is no assurance that the child or vulnerable adult will be picked up within a reasonable time, police will be called after 15 minutes. Library staff will contact law enforcement officials to take charge of the situation involving the unattended child or vulnerable adult.

Library staff members are not permitted to transport an unattended child or vulnerable adult under any circumstances.

If the police are contacted and the child or vulnerable adult is transported by the police to another location, the library staff shall leave a note on the door (without information identifying the patron) to notify the caregiver regarding the location of the child or vulnerable adult.

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