

Irvington Public Library

Unattended or Disruptive Children Policy

The Irvington Library welcomes children of all ages, and encourages them to make use of the resources that the library has to offer. The library staff strives to ensure that the library is operated in a safe manner. The objective reality, however, is that the library is open to the public and may present hazards for unattended children. The responsibility for the care, safety and behavior of the children in the library and on library property rests with the children's parents, guardian or other responsible caregiver. The library and its staff are not responsible for the care, safety and behavior of children in the library or on library property or for any consequences resulting from the children being in the library or on library property.

Children nine years of age and younger must be accompanied and supervised continually by a parent, guardian or other responsible caregiver of at least fourteen years of age who is able to attend to the children's care and safety and ensure appropriate behavior. A parent, guardian or other responsible caregiver must remain with the child at all times.

If the child is five years old or younger, s/he must remain within sight and conversation distance of his/her parent, guardian or other responsible caregiver.

The parent, guardian or other responsible caregiver must remain in the building while a child in his/her care is attending a library program.

All children in the library must follow the library's rules and are expected to use the library appropriately. Children whose behavior is disruptive may be asked to leave the library.

The library staff cannot provide food, transportation or money to children. They cannot take responsibility for a child in the event of a medical emergency.

If an unaccompanied child is found in the library, the library staff will attempt to locate his/her parent, guardian or other responsible caregiver in the library. If the parent, guardian or other responsible caregiver cannot be found, the police may be contacted.

Adopted 10/19/06