

Policy and Procedure Manual	Section B.5
Public Policy Unattended Children's Policy	Issued : September 20, 2004 Amended February 20, 2017 Approving Authority: Board of Library Trustees

Unattended Children's Policy

The Orland Park Public Library encourages children of all ages to visit the Library with their parents to take advantage of the resources available to meet their informational, educational and recreational needs. The Library Board asserts that it is the responsibility of the parent to insure the appropriate behavior of their children in the Library. The Library encourages parents to consider the safety of their minor children, as well as the well-being and needs of other Library patrons and to talk with their minor children about appropriate behavior in the Library.

The library staff is committed to helping children with activities related to the Library. However, Library staff is not responsible for the supervision of children left unattended by their parents. The Library is an open and public building. Staff cannot assume responsibility for the supervision and safety of children. It is a parent/adult caregiver's responsibility to closely supervise and provide for the safety of their children. Children age nine and under must be accompanied by, attended to and within the visual range of a parent or other responsible person sixteen (16) years of age or older who is present at all times in the Library, except during specialized programming for children, which are designed and suitable for attendance by children without parental supervision. The parent or other responsible person sixteen (16) years of age or older must remain in the library at all times. Children whose behavior causes a problem for staff or other patrons will receive a warning, and if their behavior persists, they will be asked to leave the Library. Children ten (10) years of age or older may use the Library unattended by an adult, subject to other Library rules and policies concerning behavior, conduct and demeanor.

Library hours are posted and the building is locked promptly at closing. Children left at closing will wait outside the Library. The Library assumes no responsibility for children left unattended at closing. The appropriate authorities may be contacted for any children left after the Library closes.

Adopted by the Board of Library Trustees on September 20, 2004; Amended February 20, 2017