



UNATTENDED CHILD/CHILDREN POLICY

This policy provides for the safety and well-being of children at the Library. A "child" is any person under the age of eighteen (18). Children need to feel comfortable in the use of the Library and the services and collections designed specifically for them. However, as in any public facility, the usual cautions and dangers exist. If you see or experience something suspicious, please report it to staff immediately.

- Children are the responsibility of parents, guardians or caregivers (ages 18 and older).
- Children must comply with the Library's Patron Behavior Policy (P11) at all times.
- The Library will not function as a babysitting service or day care facility. Staff are not expected to monitor or supervise children.
- Parents, guardians or caregivers of children under the age of seven (7) years must be responsible for maintaining visual contact with and must be in the presence of their child at all times including programming and trips to the restroom, except when the child is attending library programs that are specifically designated as allowing children to attend alone. However, the parent, guardian or caregiver must remain in the Library for the duration of the program.
- Parents, guardians or caregivers of children between seven (7) and eleven (11) years old must remain at the Library but not necessarily in visual contact with their child.
- Children twelve (12) years and older may be left on their own to attend library programs or use the Library unless staff determines the child needs supervision, assistance or the child has demonstrated that they cannot comply with the Patron Behavior Policy (P11).
- Children twelve (12) years or older who are unattended at the Library should know their telephone number and other contact information. It is a violation of Library policy not to come immediately and pick up your unattended child if the Library calls. If a parent, guardian or caregiver is unreachable, staff will contact public safety to request assistance.
- If an unattended child (under the age of twelve (12) is at the Library after closing time, staff will contact public safety to request assistance.
- Children of any age who, because of a disability or medical issue, require supervision or personal care shall be attended by a parent, guardian, or caregiver at all times.
- Staff are not responsible if unattended children leave the Library alone or with other persons. Further, staff are not responsible for children who may be asked to leave the Library if the child is in violation of a Library policy.

Follow Disciplinary Process for Library Facilities in Patron Behavior Policy

Approved by the Novi Public Library Board of Trustees: January 16, 2008

Amended: May 15, 2010; June 20, 2012; June 22, 2017; June 27, 2019; June 24, 2021
