

Child Safety Policy

Purpose

To enrich the lives of children and help them develop a love of learning, Children's Services provides access to quality children's materials and makes information and cultural opportunities available to children and people involved in children's lives. The Robbins Library welcomes people of all ages to use its facilities and services. In an effort to ensure the safety and well being of children, ensure use of Children's Services consistent with its mission and maintain an atmosphere of constructive library use, the following policy regarding appropriate use in the Children's Room is adopted.

Policy

1. The materials, services and equipment in the Robbins Library Children's Room are intended for the use of children, their parents and caregivers, and others needing children's materials and services for some specific purpose. All other patrons are asked to use the adult areas of the library.
2. All children under the age of ten should be accompanied and supervised by a parent or other adult who is responsible for the child. Unattended children are a safety concern for all library users.
3. At the discretion of a responsible adult, a child age ten or older may be left unattended for the period of time needed to select materials, complete a homework assignment, or attend a program. The child must know how to reach the responsible adult in case this need should arise. Children should not be left for excessively long (more than two hours) periods of time; the library does not assume responsibility for the supervision and safety of unattended children.
4. Children and their adult caregivers should be aware of the closing time of the library. At the recommendation of the Police Chief, the library will call the Police to escort children who have been left in the building after closing hours. Responsible adults will be called to pick up the child at the Public Safety Building.
5. The parent/guardian is responsible for insuring appropriate behavior of their children in the library. Disruptive behavior, including shouting, running, pushing, or other rowdy, rambunctious activities, will not be tolerated. We will ask disruptive children to leave the building in an orderly manner. In the case of unaccompanied children under 13 years old, a parent/guardian will be called to pick them up.
6. Neither children nor their parents/guardians/caregivers should bring food or beverages to be consumed in the library unless it is covered water container. The exception is when food is served as part of a Children's Room program or celebration.
7. Computers in the Children's Room and throughout the library building are not intended for use by children age 5 or under unless with an adult. It is the responsibility of a parent or caregiver to ensure appropriate use of the online terminal and other electronic library resources by young children. Pounding on keyboards and other potentially damaging activities are not permitted.

