

TOWN OF MCLENNAN LIBRARY BOARD
UNATTENDED OR UNSUPERVISED CHILDREN: A POLICY FOR SAFE CHILDREN

The McLennan Municipal Library is concerned about the safety of all children using its facilities and services and the creation of an environment in which all patrons can enjoy a safe and pleasant atmosphere.

1. The Library welcomes children of all ages, however responsibility for the welfare and behavior of children using the Library rests with the parent/guardian or assigned caregiver, not with the Library staff.
2. Children of five (5) years of age and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Children between the ages of six (6) and ten (10) must have a supervisor of at least twelve (12) yrs of age while using the Library services.
3. Children over the age of twelve (12) may use the Library unsupervised provided they maintain acceptable behavior.
4. Children under the age of (5) attending programs must remain within eyesight of their parent/guardian or assigned caregiver. They will be supervised by Library staff only during the scheduled time of the program.
5. Groups of children must be accompanied by an adult at all times.
6. If a child is unattended, in distress, or disruptive, the Library staff will try to locate the parent/guardian or adult caregiver. If the parent/guardian or adult caregiver is unable to be located, Library staff will notify the police.
7. If a child is left at the Library at closing time, emergency closing, or in the event of an emergency situation, the Library Manager will attempt to contact the parent/guardian or adult caregiver. If the caregiver is unable to be located, the police will be contacted. Library staff will remain with the child until the police arrive. Under no circumstances will the Library staff take the child away from the Library premises, regardless of whether or not they have consent from the child's caregiver.

Approved: January 2011
Revised: May 2015
Reviewed: February 2019
Next review: January 2021
Board Chair:

