

CUS3
SAFE CHILD POLICY

The library provides an array of services to children from preschool age through high school age. Library children's rooms are reserved for children, their parents, guardians, teachers, caregivers, and people researching children's literature.

The library encourages frequent visits by children and their families. However, library staff cannot provide childcare or assume responsibility for children's safety. Parents, guardians, teachers, and caregivers, not library staff, are responsible for the behavior and safety of children visiting the library. Staff cannot be placed in the position of supervising unattended children.

Children are expected to behave in a manner conducive to maintaining an appropriate atmosphere in the building for all customers

Children must know how to reach an adult in case of an emergency, and both children and adults need to be aware of library hours.

Unattended Children

An unattended child is a child of any age under the age of nine (9) must be accompanied by a responsible caregiver. Parents, guardians, teachers, and caregivers may not leave children alone or in the care of other children who are unable or unwilling to provide adequate care. Supervising adults must be close at hand.

As in all public places, *stranger danger* is a real concern. Library staff cannot prevent children from interacting with or leaving with persons who are not the appropriate chaperone.

If the library is closing, at a regular time or in an emergency situation, and a parent or guardian of a child cannot be located in the building, the police department will be called to take the child.

The library is not responsible for any consequences of parents forfeiting their responsibilities.

Reviewed and adopted by the Chattahoochee Valley Libraries Board on April 16, 2009
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