

DHCLS Board of Trustees - August 12, 2021

Item 5.a - Unattended Child Policy

It is the policy of the Library to provide a safe and appropriate environment for library users of all ages. The Library is, however, a public building with staff trained to provide public library services. The Library is not equipped, nor is it the Library's role, to provide long- or short-term supervision for children of any age. Aside from the planned programs, services, and activities designed for specific age groups, the Library's staff is not responsible for supervising or tending to the needs of individual users or groups of users.

Accordingly, children under the age of thirteen (13) must always be directly accompanied by a parent, guardian or responsible adult while in the Library. If a child under the age of 13 is attending a Library program or activity, the parent, guardian, or responsible adult must remain inside the Library throughout the program.

In general, parents of any minor children should not leave them unattended at the Library. Children must be picked up no later than five minutes before closing time. Police will be notified concerning any children left after closing time. Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children in the Library, whether or not the parents are present.

Staff reserves the right to limit adult patrons from loitering in the children's space.

Failure to supervise underage children will result in the patron(s) being asked to leave the Library for the day. Additional incidents can result in suspension of library privileges, including a temporary or permanent ban, as determined by the Library Director.