



UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY

The Fairview Free Public Library is a public facility that offers services to a wide range of citizens. Children are especially welcome. The library has the responsibility to provide an environment that is safe and comfortable for every patron who is appropriately using its services and facilities. Parents and guardians are responsible for the behavior and care of their children while in the library.

Library staff cannot assume the responsibility for the care, safety, or well-being of children in the library or on library property. Young children are not safe when left unattended in the library. For the protection and well-being of children who visit the library, the following procedure has been established:

1. Children under the age of eight (8) should never be left unattended in any area of the library.
2. **Children under the age of 8 years must be accompanied by a caregiver (age 12 or over) at all times while in the library.**
3. The library staff will attempt to locate the parent or guardian of the unattended child immediately.
4. If the library staff is unable to locate the parent or guardian within fifteen (15) minutes, the library staff will notify the borough police to take charge of the child.
5. Parents are required to be at the library no later than twenty minutes before closing to pick up children. If, after 20 minutes, the child is still left unattended, the Police Department will be called to assist.

Policy revised at the January 28, 2019 Library Board of Trustees meeting