

CUS-4: Unattended Children Policy

Adopted: 3/20/2014; Last Revised: 2/15/2018

Policy Statement

The goal of the library is to maintain a welcoming environment that encourages families to explore library resources and share learning opportunities. The library wants adults and children of all ages to have a safe, positive experience. Unattended children may act in a manner not in compliance with the library's Patron Conduct Policy thus adversely affecting other patrons' library experience and diverting staff from providing service to other patrons.

Regulations

1. For their own protection, children under the age of 8 must be accompanied and adequately supervised by an adult at all times. The library is a public place and, as such, cannot be responsible for unattended children.
2. If an unattended child acts in a manner not in compliance with the library's *Patron Conduct Policy*, staff members will take appropriate actions that may include contacting the police.
3. If unattended children are in the library at closing, staff will take appropriate actions that may include contacting the police.
4. When a parent or caregiver reports a lost child in the library, staff will immediately respond and follow established guidelines and procedures that may include contacting the police.
5. First offenses will be handled verbally by attending staff or in writing by the library director. Second offenses may result in restricted or suspended library privileges.
6. A patron who lives in the library service area who wishes to challenge a library policy or any portion of a library policy should follow procedures as outlined in MGT-15: Appeals Process Policy.