



Unattended Minors Policy

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Little Elm Public Library welcomes visitors of all ages, and we hope you and your child or children have an enjoyable visit and become lifelong library users. In order to provide a safe and enjoyable library experience for you, your child(ren), and other visitors, the following policy is in force:

1. Please remember that the library serves the general public, and Little Elm Public Library staff can assume no responsibility for unattended, disruptive, or abandoned children, of any age.
2. Parents, caregivers and designated guardians are, at all times, responsible for and accountable for the conduct of their child(ren). Library staff are not authorized to act *in loco parentis* (in place of parent).
3. Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied by a parent/caregiver or designated guardian of at least 16 years of age.
4. To promote a safe environment for children, the library expects parents/caregivers and designated guardians to remain with child(ren) in their care while in the library. Staff are responsible for assisting all library visitors and cannot provide constant care and supervision to unattended or unsupervised children.
5. Library staff will make attempts to contact a parent/caregiver or designated guardian of any unattended child(dren) observed to be in distress.
6. When a child is discovered to be unattended and a parent/caregiver or designated guardian cannot be located or contacted, library staff may place the unattended child(ren) in the care of local authorities.
7. If library staff observe suspected abuse or neglect on the part of a parent/caregiver or designated guardian, local authorities may be notified of a child in danger.
8. The Library is not responsible for children left without transportation after operating hours, and under no circumstances may staff transport children or accompany them home. A child or children left at the library after closing may be considered abandoned; employees will attempt to contact a parent/caregiver or responsible adult before releasing the child to local authorities.