Unattended Child Policy

The Raynham Library welcomes children of all ages and strives to create a warm, inviting learning environment. The Library offers many programs and services that encourage children to develop a love of books and reading. However, the Library is a public building, and the well-being of children left alone at the Library is a serious concern. Young children are not safe when left unattended in a library or any other public place. The responsibility for children using the Library rests with the child’s caregiver.

The safety and well-being of every child is very important and to ensure their protection, the Raynham Public Library has adopted the following policy.

- The Library staff is not responsible for supervising children.
- Children age 12 or younger must be accompanied and directly supervised by a designated caregiver (aged 16+) at all times.
- If a child age 12 or younger is left unattended, every effort will be made to contact their caregiver. If the caregiver cannot be located, the police will be contacted.
- Caregivers (aged 16+) must not leave the Library while their children, age 12 or younger, are attending a Library sponsored program.
- Children age 13 and older should be familiar with, and adhere to, Library policies and hours of service. A child, old enough to use the Library alone, whose conduct interferes with another patron’s ability to use the Library in violation of posted policies will be asked to leave the building. Children should know how to reach their caregiver during their visit.
- Under no circumstances will a staff member transport a child from the Library.
- Library staff cannot prevent children from interacting with or leaving with persons who are not the appropriate chaperone.

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees, June 2023