

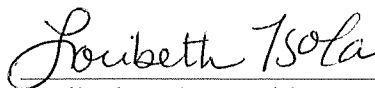
Unattended Children Policy

The Waterford Public Library welcomes children of all ages. However, staff members cannot monitor the behavior or whereabouts of each patron, including children. Staff will not take over parental responsibilities for children who come to the library.

1. All children nine years old or younger shall, at all times, be attended by and directly supervised by a responsible person, who is an adult or mature adolescent. A person under the age of sixteen will not be considered a responsible caregiver; this includes siblings. The caregiver is responsible for the child's behavior while in the building. "Directly supervised" is defined as the ability of the child and caregiver to be able to observe one another at all times.
2. Parents, guardians, and caregivers are responsible for the safety, behavior, and supervision of children at all times in the library and on library property. Children are expected to respect library property and adhere to the Code of Conduct Policy. Library staff will intervene when a child is violating library rules and take whatever action is considered appropriate including, but not limited to, notifying the child's caregiver, summoning the police, restricting library privileges and/or access to the library.
3. If a child nine years old or younger is left unattended and the caregiver cannot be located within a reasonable amount of time, law enforcement officials will be contacted.

Furthermore, at closing, if a child who is under the age of sixteen is left unattended in the library, and a caregiver cannot be reached or does not arrive within fifteen minutes of closing, law enforcement officials will be contacted.

Adopted by the Waterford Public Library Board
July 10, 2001, *Revised February 10, 2004, Revised*
August 12, 2020, Revised August 11, 2026



Loribeth Isola, President