



Policy 800-7

Adopted Date: April 2004

Revised: September 2022, January 2017

UNATTENDED CHILD POLICY

The Seymour Library is dedicated to providing a welcoming environment that encourages all persons to visit the library, use its collections and services, and attend programs. Library staff are available to assist and support children with their use of resources.

Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children while they are in the library. The responsibility for the safety and behavior of children in the library rests with the parent/caregiver and not with the Library personnel. Library employees cannot be responsible for children who are unattended or demonstrating inappropriate behavior.

- Children ages 7 and below: Parent/guardian/caregiver must be in the library and in sight of the child
- Children ages 8-12: Parent/guardian/caregiver must be in the library
- Children ages 13+: May use the library unattended, but parent/guardian/caregiver is still responsible.
- At the discretion of a library staff, a parent/guardian/caregiver may be required to accompany a particular child(ren) at all times, regardless of age.
- In the event a child is unable to be located in the library, the parent/guardian/caregiver is to notify a library staff member immediately.
- If a child is left at the library at closing, the Monroe County Sheriff Department will be called for assistance. Library staff will remain with the child until the Sheriff arrives or until the parent/guardian/caregiver arrives.

Violations of this policy are grounds for suspension of Library privileges. The Library will notify the parent of incidents involving an unattended child and the incident will be documented and kept on file.