

Trumbull Library System Unattended Children Policy

This policy pertains to children up to Grade 6.

The Library Board and staff are eager for children to use the Library and hope that children of all ages will find the Library to be a warm and welcoming place. In order to maintain a safe, orderly and appropriate environment for library use, the following guidelines regarding the supervision of children are in effect:

- Parents, guardians or caregivers are responsible for the behavior, safety and supervision of their children at all times while children are in the library and on the library premises.
 - No child in Grade 5 or under may be left alone in the library for any reason.
 - Preschool children must be accompanied by parent, guardian or caregiver at all times. *During storytimes, adults are asked to remain in the Children's Room.*
- The library staff is not responsible for the safety or supervision of children of any age, whether in the library or on library premises.
- Parents, guardians or caregivers should be aware of library opening and closing times and make suitable arrangements to meet and transport their children.
 - If an unattended child is left at the library at closing time, or as the result of an emergency closing, staff will assist the child in calling home to arrange transportation.
 - Two staff members will remain with the child for 15 minutes after library closing.
 - Staff will contact Trumbull police after 15 minutes.

Under no circumstances will a library staff member take a child out of the building or transport a child to another location.
- Parents should be aware of the content of Connecticut General Statutes, sec. 53-21a regarding child neglect and risk to minors. A copy of statute is available at the library's public service desks.
- All patrons are asked to observe the Trumbull Library System's "Patron Conduct Policy"
- All children, young adults and adults are expected to respect library property and other library patrons.* Disruptive or inappropriate behavior will result in the individual(s) being asked to leave. *In the case of minors, the library staff will make every attempt to contact parent or guardian prior to removal. The judgment of the library staff prevails when requesting the removal of a child from the building in the event of behavioral difficulties and the Trumbull Police Department will be notified in situations deemed necessary.*

Approved by Trumbull Library System Board of Trustees - October 9, 2008

