

## **Unattended Children Policy**

Parents, legal guardians, and or a responsible caregiver are always responsible for the well being and safety of their children and the children in their care while in the library. Fairfax Community Library staff will not be responsible for supervising children. The FCL library assumes no responsibility for children of any age left unattended, at any time.

- Children ages 0-7 shall at all times be attended to and adequately supervised by parents, guardians, or a responsible caregiver of at least 15 years old while at the library or a library sponsored event.
- Children ages 8 and up may use the library unattended providing the parents/guardians have spoken with the library staff prior to leaving the visiting child alone, and as long as the child's behavior is in accordance with the library's rules and expectations for conduct, including following directions from library staff.
- Staff may notify parents, guardians, or responsible caregivers whose children, of any age, are in need of additional supervision and/or are not following library rules or expectations.
- Parents/guardians assume all liability for damages done by their children to the library. This includes damage to materials, computers, furnishings, and to the facility itself. Regardless of their absence/presence, they are legally responsible for their children's behavior in the library.
- It is not the responsibility of the FCL library staff to exercise a supervisory or restrictive role in determining which library resources young people may use or have access to while at the library during non-school library hours. The library encourages parents/caregivers to set their own family rules. It is the responsibility of parents caregivers to monitor young people's selection and use of print and digital library resources, including the internet.
- Unattended children must be picked up prior to closing time. Police will be called if children are left waiting 15 minutes past closing time.

Adopted 4/14