

## **Fairfax Community Library Unattended Children Policy**

Revised draft

v1-11/22/21

v2-11/27/21

v3-12/22/21

The [Patron Code of Conduct](#) of the Fairfax Community Library, states that users of the library have the right to expect the library to be a welcoming and safe place for a variety of activities. To foster these expectations, library patrons of all ages are required to follow the behaviors outlined in the Patron Code of Conduct. The following specific regulations apply to library use by children.

- Fairfax Community Library welcomes children; parents, guardians, or other caregivers are always responsible for the well-being and safety of the children in their care while visiting the library.
- Children younger than 8 years old must at all times be supervised by a responsible caregiver while at the library or any library-sponsored event held outside of the library.
- Children 8 years old or older may use the library or participate in a program unattended as long as the child's behavior is in accordance with the Patron Code of Conduct including following directions from library staff.
- The Fairfax Community Library assumes no responsibility for children left unattended in the library. Parents or guardians assume all liability for damages done by their children to the library. This includes damage to materials, computers, furnishing, and to the facility itself.
- Library staff will not monitor a child's presence at the library or decide with whom they may leave the library.
- Library staff do not exercise a supervisory or restrictive role in determining which library resources children may use or have access to while at the library. It is the responsibility of parents and guardians to set their own family rules and to monitor children's selection and use of print and digital resources including internet use.
- Unattended children must be picked up prior to closing time. Police will be called if children are left waiting 15 minutes past closing time.