

3.6 Unattended Children

The Library's concerns about safety, liability and responsibility mandate that it address the issue of children age nine and under who are left unattended in the building. The following rules have been adopted by the Library Board of Trustees as a policy on the situation of children age nine or under who are left unattended or appear to be in the facility without adult supervision:

1. Children age ten or under must be attended by a parent or a responsible childcare provider while in the library.
2. Children age ten or under attending a library program must be brought into the building by a parent or responsible child care provider who must remain in the building until the conclusion of the program when the parent or child care provider will resume the supervision of the child.
3. Children under the age of six must be attended by a parent or responsible childcare provider at all times.
4. Children age ten or under must have a parent or responsible childcare provider with them when they use the Children's Internet computers.
5. A responsible childcare provider shall be defined as a person age 15 or over.
6. If an unattended child calls attention to himself/herself, a staff member will attempt to locate the parent or childcare provider.
7. If a staff member is unable to locate the parent or provider of children under the age of ten, especially when closing the building a staff member will:
 - a. Call the child's home.
 - b. If a parent is available, two staff members will wait until the parent arrives for the child and then will secure the building.
 - c. If a parent is not home, the staff member will notify the Fort Dodge Police Department.

Adopted 8/97
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