

Unattended Minors Policy DRAFT

Madison Public Library encourages youth to use its services and facilities. Library staff are happy to:

- Help youth find materials to read for school or fun.
- Provide a space that is good for studying and learning.
- Provide learning and entertaining programs.

Staff members are also committed to the well-being and safety of children. However, Library employees cannot function as caregivers or babysitters. The Library cannot assume responsibility or liability for minors. Parents/guardians/caregivers are responsible for their child in the Library, even if they are not present.

A responsible person must closely supervise children under age eight when they are using the Library. This person must manage the behavior of the child at all times.

Staff will discuss disruptive or inappropriate behavior with children and caregivers. If behavior has not improved after discussion, the child and caregiver may be asked to leave for the day.

Library staff will attempt to contact the parent or guardian of the child if a child is unattended or under-attended/ignored and:

- the child appears to be a danger to themselves or others (or)
- the child appears to be threatened by others (or)
- the child appears to be ill or upset (or)
- the child has not been met by a parent or caregiver at closing.

If a parent or guardian cannot be found, staff will contact the Madison Police Department. In the event of an emergency, staff will call 911.

When using the library, youth must follow the library policies below:

- [Behavior Policy](#)
- [Check Out Policies](#)
- [Public Guidelines for Use of Computers and Computer Networks](#)