



LIBRARY POLICY

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| | TITLE | PRINT DATE 8/29/2016 |
| | UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY | ADOPTED DATE 04/23/2009 |
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POLICY

Governing the safety and wellbeing of minors in the Frankfort Public Library.

PURPOSE

The Frankfort Public Library District welcomes children of all ages to take advantage of the library's resources to meet their informational, recreational and educational needs.

Library facilities, however, are not licensed or designed to provide basic care needs such as physical exercise, nutrition, or emergency care, nor are they to be used as an alternative shelter for children. Any public place may be dangerous for a child who is left unattended. It is impossible for the library staff to guarantee a safe environment.

SCOPE

The library encourages parents to consider the safety and well-being of their children as well as the needs of other library users of all ages. A parent or responsible adult caregiver (18 or older) should accompany and directly supervise children.

Unattended children over the age of 9 are free to use the library's resources as long as needed, provided that their behavior is not disruptive to other patrons or staff members. Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children in the library, whether or not the parents are in attendance

PROCEDURAL CONTROL

CIRCULATION -X ADULT SERVICES -X YOUTH SERVICES - X COMPUTER LAB MONITORS

If at any time a child under the age of 9 is unattended, the following will occur:

1. Staff will determine if the parent or caregiver is in the library. If the parent or caregiver is in the library, he or she will be asked to stay with and supervise the child.

It is the Library's goal that a child under age 9 be placed under care of their parent or caregiver or the Frankfort Police Department within 30 minutes of having been determined to be unattended.

2. If it is determined that a child under the age of 9 is in the library without an adult caregiver, a staff member will call the parents and request that they pick up the child. If the parents cannot be reached within 20 minutes, or if they do not respond within 20 minutes, the Frankfort Police will be contacted.
3. If a child age 14 and under is left unattended at closing time, staff will call a parent or adult caregiver. If the parents or caregiver does not arrive within 15 minutes, the Frankfort Police will be contacted. Staff members are not allowed to drive the child home.

Violations of this policy are grounds for suspension of library privileges.