

Unattended Children Policy

The Gloucester Lyceum and Sawyer Free Library, Inc. welcomes children and families to use the children's library and enjoy our programs and resources. Our care and concern for children's safety and security is of primary importance. However, as we are a public building, the library cannot assure the safety of children. In the library the behavior, supervision and well-being of children are the responsibility of parents, caregivers and guardians, not library personnel. The library is unable to assume responsibility for children left unattended in the building.

We require that children under the age of eight be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or caregiver. If unattended children are found in the building, library staff will call responsible caregivers, parents, or guardians. Children ages eight and older may use library services and attend programs unaccompanied by adults. Parents are reminded that they are responsible for awareness of library hours, and for providing children with the telephone number of an adult who can assist them in an emergency, such as sudden illness, or an unexpected change in library hours. It is important to note that parents will be contacted to pick up their children, should they demonstrate inappropriate or disruptive behaviors.

In the event that library staff cannot locate responsible parents or adults local authorities will be contacted to assure child safety.

Approved by Board of Directors: March 3, 2015