



# Children's Safety in the Library Policy

Children are welcome in the library. While the Library provides a safe and friendly environment for all its users, it is a public building where people enter and leave freely without staff monitoring.

- The Library Staff cannot supervise individuals.
- Children under the age of ten cannot be left unattended or unsupervised in the building.
- Unattended children in the library are expected to be mature enough to follow the Library Code of Conduct and take responsibility for their own safety without an adult.
- While attending a program, meeting or using the building's facilities, parents, guardians and caregivers are responsible for the safety and behavior of their children under the age of eighteen. Such adults are expected to set age-appropriate limits and observe necessary precautions for the safety of their children.
- Providing appropriate transportation for children to and from the library is the responsibility of parents, guardians, and caregivers. Such adults should be aware of Library business hours and plan accordingly.
- Library staff will assist a child in contacting a parent, guardian and/or caregiver prior to closing time.
- Library staff cannot provide for the transportation needs of library users.
- If safe transportation cannot be provided within 15 minutes after closing, library staff will have the option of contacting law enforcement to request safe transportation for the child to a safe place.

Appropriate supervision provided by parents, guardians, and caregivers assists in creating a pleasant and safe place for Library users of all ages. Together we can provide a positive and friendly place for everyone.

**Adopted and approved 8/10/2017, reviewed and affirmed 7/08/2021**

**Questions/Concerns contact the library director, 641-257-6319 or  
director@charles-city.lib.ia.us**