

## Safe Child Guidelines

The Carmel Clay Public Library welcomes children of all ages to use its facilities, materials, and services. However, library staff members cannot be responsible for the supervision of children using the library, including those being tutored on library premises.

**Children 5 years old and under** must always have a supervising caregiver 16 years or older within sight and conversational distance of them. The only exceptions are 4-and 5-year-olds who are attending library-sponsored programs.

Children between the ages of 6 and 9 must always have a supervising caregiver 16 years or older in the building, even while the child is attending a program independently.

Children 10 years old and over may be in the library without a caregiver.

In all circumstances, a child's caregiver assumes responsibility for the child's behavior.

Caregivers need to be familiar with the library's hours and make advance arrangements to pick up or otherwise transport their children before the library closes. A minor age 15 years old or under who is left unattended at closing time may be deemed at risk. Every reasonable effort will be made by library staff to assist the child in contacting an appropriate caregiver. Staff members are not permitted to drive children home.