

HIGHLAND PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

Policy 502

Child Safety Policy

The Highland Park Public Library is committed to the well-being and safety of all who visit the Library. While the Library strives to provide a welcoming and safe environment for children, the Library is a public place in which safety cannot be guaranteed. Library staff do not act in loco parentis (in place of parents), therefore, parents or caregivers are responsible for their children in the Library.

Children under the age of eight must be directly supervised by a responsible parent, guardian or caregiver, 14 years or older, at all times in all areas of the Library.

If it is determined that a child under the age of eight has been left unattended or a child older than eight and younger than 14 are unable to successfully comply with the Library Behavior Policy, Library staff will attempt to contact the responsible adult. If repeated attempts fail, police may be called for the child's protection. Parents, guardians or caregivers must pick up their children prior to Library closing time.

Children under the age of 14 who are not picked up within 15 minutes after closing time may be placed, for their protection, in the custody of the police. In no instance will a staff member or volunteer transport a child or wait alone with a child.

Children age 14 or older may be asked to leave the Library if they are unable to successfully comply with the Library Behavior Policy or are present at Library closing time.

Adopted February 14, 1989

Revised November 11, 2003

Revised July 13, 2021

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