Safe Child Policy

The Needham Free Public Library seeks to create a welcoming environment for people of all ages. This policy has been established for the protection and well-being of children using the Library. While the Library staff strive to create a safe and comfortable place for children, the Library is a public building open to all. Parents, guardians, and designated caregivers are responsible for their children's safety, activities, and behavior while visiting the Library. Library staff are not responsible for supervising children or knowing whether children are leaving the building with caregivers, strangers or alone.

Children between the ages of 0-9 must be directly supervised by a responsible person, aged 13 and up, who is either a parent, guardian, or designated caregiver.

Children age 10 and up may be in the Library unattended. They must be able to understand and adhere to all Library policies, including the Appropriate Patron Behavior Policy. Parents and guardians of a child left alone in the Library must be aware that Library staff cannot provide supervision. The unattended children must be able to provide contact information for their parent or guardian if asked by a staff member.

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