

CHILDREN and DEPENDENT INDIVIDUALS POLICY

The Guilderland Public Library Board of Trustees has established the following policy to ensure the protection, safety, and well-being of children and any individuals not capable of functioning independently (dependent individuals).

I. Responsibility for Supervision of Children and Dependent Individuals

The responsibility for supervision of children, and dependent individuals, using the library rests with the caregiver (parent, guardian, nanny, baby-sitter, or assigned chaperone), *not* with library personnel. Caregivers must be over the age of 15.

II. Caregiver Responsibility

A. *Children Under the Age of 6*

A caregiver must stay with any child under the age of 6 anywhere on Library property, unless the child is enrolled in a regularly scheduled program.

B. *School-Age Children, Under Age 11, and Dependent Individuals*

In order to provide effective supervision, the caregiver must be within sight and sound of children under the age of 11 or dependent individual while using the library, unless they are enrolled in a regularly scheduled program.

The caregiver will be responsible for ensuring that all Guilderland Public Library policies and procedures are followed.

C. *Failure to Comply*

Failure to comply with any library policy or procedure may result in loss of library privileges for the caregiver and the children or dependent individual.

III. Children Ages 11 and older

Children ages 11 and older, but *not* dependent individuals, may use the library without caregiver supervision.

IV. Transportation Arrangements

- A. Transportation arrangements for pickup of children, ages 11 and older, must always be made prior to their arrival at the library.

- B. If children are not picked up by closing time, two staff members will remain with the child for 15 minutes. After that time, the police will then be called.

Children and Dependent Individuals

(Supersedes policies below that were combined, revised, and renamed.)

Adopted: February 12, 2009

Revised: 5/14/15

Unattended Children in the Library Adopted: 6/06/91

Revised: 1/20/93, 11/99, and 11/14/02

Patron Safety

Adopted: 5/13/99

Dependent Individuals

Adopted: 1/09/03

POLICY