



Unattended Minor Policy

I. Responsibility for Supervision of Children

The responsibility for supervision of children using the library rests with the caregiver (parent, grandparent, guardian, nanny, baby-sitter, older sibling, or assigned chaperone), not with library personnel. Caregivers must be over the age of 13. All children are the ultimate responsibility of their parents/guardians, even when the parent/guardian is not present.

A caregiver may be asked to stay with their child, regardless of age, in accordance with the requirements of a specific library event, or if the child's conduct is inconsistent with our Rules of Public Behavior.

II. Caregiver Responsibility

A. Children 6 years of age and younger

A caregiver must stay with any child ages 6 and under anywhere on Library property.

B. Children ages 7-10 Children ages 7-10 must have an accessible caregiver in the building, but may be unaccompanied in the Children's Library or during a Library program or event. In all other areas of the library and library grounds they must be accompanied by their caregiver.

The caregiver will be responsible for ensuring that all Guilderland Public Library policies and procedures are followed, and should be aware of the Library's Hours of Operation, and that unexpected emergency closures may happen at any time.

C. Failure to Comply

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

D. Abandoned Children

In the event that a child under 11 is abandoned at the Library, either the child or staff will contact the parent/guardian/caregiver to reunite with their child immediately. If the caregiver does not arrive within a reasonable time frame, the Guilderland Police will be apprised of the situation.

III. Children Ages 11 and older

Children ages 11 and older 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. Pickup must take place at least 15 minutes prior to the closing time of the library.

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

V. Children's Play Room (The Meadow)

The Children's Play Room (The Meadow) is a safe space for younger children and their caregivers. Adults are not to be in the play room unless they are responsible for a child and a child should not be left alone in the play room without a caregiver.

Unattended Minors Policy Adopted 10/15/2026 (supersedes policies below that were combined, revised and renamed)

Children and Dependent Individuals 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