

## **Unattended Children**

The Clarkston Independence District Library welcomes children of all ages to use its facilities and services. Responsibility for the welfare and behavior of the children using the library rests with the parent/guardian or responsible caregiver. The Library is not responsible for children left unattended.

Parents should not use the library as an alternative to daycare and should understand that in their absence, they are legally responsible for their children's behavior.

Children under the age of 7 must be accompanied and directly supervised at all times by a parent, responsible caregiver or a responsible sibling over the age of 12.

Children aged 7-11 may use the library unattended subject to their behavior and the Library's Patron Rules of Conduct. Parent or responsible caregiver must remain on the library's premises.

Children 12 and older may be left on their own to attend library programs or to use the Library unless Library Staff determines the child needs supervision, assistance or the child has demonstrated that he/she cannot comply with the Library's Patron Rules of Conduct.

Children under 4 years of age must be accompanied to the restrooms by a parent or responsible caregiver.

On occasion, the staff offers programs that are designed and suitable to be attended by children without parental supervision. In this case, the parent or responsible caregiver is expected to remain in proximity to the program in order that he/she is available if needed.

Children of any age with mental, physical, or emotional problems which render supervision necessary shall be accompanied by a parent or responsible caregiver at all times.

## **Unattended Children after Hours**

Unattended children under the age of 16 must be picked up before closing time. A child will be asked to call home if he/she is unattended 15 minutes before the library closes. Staff will assist in this matter. If the child's parent or a responsible caregiver cannot be located within 20 minutes after closing, the staff will call the police. At least two staff members will remain in the building with the child until a parent, responsible caregiver, or police officer arrives. A staff member will not take the child home or away from the library premises.

***Independence Township sheriff's dispatch number is 248-858-4950***

*Library Board Approved 8.19.2013*