

Warren-Newport Public Library District

Lake County, Illinois

Board of Trustees

Policy 3063

Unattended Children

Adopted: June 13, 2006

Reviewed/Revised: January 15, 2008; May 21, 2013; April 21, 2015; September 17, 2018;
August 24, 2021; November 19, 2024

ARTICLE 1. RESPONSIBILITY

Parents or legal guardians are responsible for their children's safety and well-being while their children are visiting the Warren-Newport Public Library (WNPL). The Warren-Newport Public Library District (WNPLD) cannot and does not assume responsibility for the safety and well-being of unattended children.

ARTICLE 2. GUIDELINES

To help ensure the safety and comfort of children using WNPL and to maintain an atmosphere conducive to reading and study, the Board of Trustees of WNPLD has adopted the following guidelines:

- WNPLD is not responsible for children left unattended.
- Parents or legal guardians are responsible for their children's behavior in the library. WNPL staff will assist children with using the library but will not supervise or babysit children.
- Children under ten (10) years old must not be left alone in the library. A responsible person (parent, guardian, sibling, or babysitter), age 16 years or older must be in attendance in the same department of the library as the child and must maintain an awareness of the child's location and activity.
- A child of any age who has a medical condition that requires substantial monitoring must not be left alone in the library.
- Unattended children over ten (10) years old must be involved in a library program or be using library resources.
- Unattended children must be able to tell library staff their full name, parent or caregiver's name, and parent or caregiver's phone number upon request. They must also have the ability to contact a responsible person for transportation when transportation is needed.

- Parents or guardians are responsible for picking up their children prior to the library closing. Under no circumstances will a staff member drive any child home.
 - If the parents of an unattended child under the age of fourteen (14) years cannot be located when the library is closing, the staff will call the Gurnee Police Department, who will assume responsibility for the child. At their discretion, staff may call the Gurnee Police Department to report an unattended child.
 - The regular use of WNPL as a place for children to go in lieu of daycare services is not permitted.
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