

## **UNATTENDED CHILD POLICY GUTEKUNST PUBLIC LIBRARY**

The purpose of the Unattended Child Policy is to maintain a safe and secure environment for children using the library. It also ensures that young children are supervised by age appropriate, responsible parties.

- An unattended child is a minor of any age whose behavior requires them to be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.
- A child is expected to abide by the library's Behavior Code.
- Parents and caregivers must remain with their young children and are responsible for the care of their children inside of the building and on the premises.
- The library is not responsible for the care of unattended children and does not assume the responsibility from the parents or caregivers for providing for the welfare of their children.
- Parents with children mature enough to be left alone at the library are expected to set reasonable time limits.
- The library does not have the staff, the staff training, or the State certification to act as a childcare facility.
- The parents of children too immature to be left alone and not accompanied by an appropriate responsible party while on library property will be contacted. If they are not reached, police will be called to provide assistance.
- The library staff is not responsible for children interacting with or leaving the library with persons who are not appropriate caregivers.
- Library staff is not responsible for minors without a ride home at closing. Minors without a ride home at closing may be considered abandoned and the police may be called.
- Library staff is not responsible for any consequences of parents or caregivers forfeiting their responsibilities. Library staff may refer to the police those children who are left unattended in the library.

*Approved 10.5.17.*