

01-07-01 Philosophy

- a) Everyone is welcome at Lester Public Library regardless of age. The library has a responsibility to provide reading experiences, information, recreation, and cultural enrichment to all ages of the community. For a child's safety a responsible adult or caregiver shall accompany a child while he/she is using the Library.

01-07-02 Definitions

- a) In regards to this policy,
 - 1) A child is anyone under eight (8) years of age
 - 2) A caregiver is any individual twelve (12) years of age or older who has the authority and responsibility to care for a child by the child's parent or legal guardian.

01-07-03 Responsibilities of Parents of Guardians

- a) A child must be continually accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or caregiver unless the child is attending a library program.
- b) The Library does not act *in loco parentis (in place of parents)* and library staff does not have the authority to take responsibility for your child.
- c) If a child creates a disturbance, library staff will attempt to locate the parent/caregiver in the library and inform him/her of the policy.
- d) Parents/legal guardians/caregivers and children who are in violation of this policy are subject to suspension of library privileges and may be asked to leave the library.

01-07-04 Children Unattended at Closing Time

- a) Children under the age of sixteen (16) must not be left outside waiting for rides after the library closes. If a child is left waiting, library staff will wait with them up to 15 minutes.
 - 1) If no ride appears after 15 minutes, library staff will call the Two Rivers Police Department so that the child may be picked up and kept in safety until parents or guardians can be found.
 - 2) Library staff will not transport children.

[3/20/97]

(Revised and Board approved 5/13/08)