



<<POLICIES>>

UNATTENDED CHILDREN

Policy Statement: Tredyffrin Township Libraries (“TTL”) welcome and encourage the use of their facilities and services by children of all ages. Library staff will respond to all children with care and concern, however, responsibility for the welfare and the behavior of children using TTL rests with the parent, guardian or responsible caregiver. The Library cares about the safety and welfare of children and establishes this policy for the protection and well-being of children and to prevent disruptive behavior.

- Children under the age of 6 years old must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or responsible caregiver (at least 16 years of age) who remains within sight and conversation distance of the child.
- Children between 6 and 9 years old, who are able to follow TTL’s Patron Behavior Policy and do not require supervision due to special needs, need not be in the immediate presence of a parent or caregiver, but their caregiver must remain within the library building.
- Children age 10 and older, who are able to follow TTL’s Patron Behavior Policy and do not require supervision due to special needs, may use the library unattended.

Closing Time: In the event that children under the age of 16 are unattended or waiting for transportation for an unreasonable amount of time when the Library closes, staff will call 911 and monitor the situation until first responders arrive. Staff will not provide transportation to children under any circumstance.

Truancy: As library staff members do not act in loco parentis (in place of parents), they are not required to report suspected truanies. However, TTL will do their best to cooperate with schools, families and law enforcement agencies to uphold Pennsylvania laws regarding compulsory school attendance.

Violation of This Policy: If a child under 10 years old is found unattended, library staff will attempt to locate the parent or caregiver in the library. If the parent/caregiver cannot be found using reasonable measures within a reasonable amount of time, staff will call 911 and monitor the situation until first responders arrive.