

Unattended Children in the Library

The safety and welfare of children using the Taylorville Public Library is the primary concern for the policy outlined below:

-Children under nine (9) years of age must be under the direct supervision of a parent or caregiver while in the library. If the child is in a library program, it is suggested that the adult remain in the building for the duration of the program.

-Children ages nine (9) through twelve (12) may use the library unattended for approximately one hour; assuming their behavior is not disruptive. Children must be able to contact someone for transportation when they are ready to leave. Parents remain responsible for children even when the parent is not present in the building.

-Children between the ages of thirteen (13) and eighteen (18) are free to use the library unattended for as long as needed provided their behavior is not disruptive.

-Destruction of property will not be tolerated.

-If an unattended child is disruptive, is habitually left unattended for long periods of time, or is deemed to be a risk of harm, an effort will be made to locate the responsible parent, guardian, or caregiver.

-The library is not responsible for the care and safety of minor children traveling to and from library premises, or for children left at the library after closing.

-If children are left unattended in the library in violation of this policy, the matter may be referred to the police or other authorities.