

309 Unattended Children

Nippersink Public Library strives to provide a welcoming and safe environment for all members of the community members. The Library is particularly concerned for the safety of children in the Library.

The Nippersink Public Library staff is committed to help children with activities related to the library. However, library staff cannot, nor is it their responsibility to serve as babysitters or caregivers. Children under the age of eleven must be accompanied and directly supervised at all times by a parent, guardian or other responsible adult caregiver 18 years of age or older. Children age eleven and older may use the library unattended by an adult, subject to other library rules and policies concerning behavior, conduct and demeanor.

From time to time the Nippersink Public Library schedules or provides programs which are designed and suitable for attendance by children without parental supervision as follows:

1. Children between the ages of 5 and 10 may attend programs without adult supervision, however, a parent, guardian or adult caregiver must remain in the Youth Services Department and be available in the event of an emergency.
2. Children four years of age and under must have a parent, guardian or adult caregiver with them in the program.
3. The library reserves the right to restrict program attendance based on age, meeting room capacity and any outstanding fines or fees owed to the library.

When the safety of an unattended child is in doubt, or the parent, guardian or adult caregiver cannot be located, or if the library is closing, library staff is authorized to call the police and stay with the child until the police arrive.

Violations of this policy are grounds for restriction or suspension of library privileges. Whenever necessary, the library will notify the parent of incidents involving an unattended child.