



The Lincoln Public Library is a public institution open to all. The library wants to provide a safe place for patrons of all ages to visit and enjoy the many resources that are offered here. As such it must maintain orderly, appropriate, and equitable use of the library by all patrons. Inappropriate use and disruptive behavior will not be allowed. In order to consider the safety and well being of children, and in order to prevent undue disruption of normal library activities, the following policy has been established by the Board of Trustees, based on the general premise of consideration and respect for all patrons.

1. All children nine years and younger shall at all times be attended and supervised by an adult. The library does not provide daycare services.
2. Children ten and older, whom caregivers judge capable of observing the rules of good conduct and consideration of others as well as library equipment, may use the library unattended, for a period not to exceed two hours. All caregivers and their respective children should be aware of closing times.

Young people age 10 and older may visit the library independently, but they are still the legal responsibility of their caregivers. Young people who visit the library by themselves must know how to reach a responsible caregiver in case of emergencies, health and safety issues, inappropriate behavior, or early closure.

3. Children attending preschool programs must be accompanied by an adult caregiver.
4. If a Lincoln Public Library staff member determines that a child is unresponsive to requests for good conduct, the staff member may issue a warning. After the first warning, if the disruptive behavior continues, the children will be offered the opportunity to call their caregivers. They are able to wait in the foyer of the building.
5. Unattended children of age must know how to reach their caregiver and should be picked up at least 15 minutes prior to the library's scheduled closing time. The Lincoln Public Library does not act in loco parentis; the library assumes no responsibility for children left unattended on library premises.
6. Due to our concern for the safety and well being of your children, the Lincoln Police will be notified about those who are left unattended when the library closes. Children who are left at closing will be entrusted in their care. Under no circumstances will staff transport children from the library or accompany them home.
7. Caregivers should encourage their children to respect library property and the rights of others who use the library in regard to play, noise and safety. Although the library is a fun place for children, playground behavior is not appropriate in the library building. The library reserves the right to limit the use of the library by children and caregivers who, in the judgment of the library staff, are infringing upon the rights of other library users by inappropriate behavior.
8. The library is not responsible for children outside the building. As in all public places "stranger danger" is a real concern. The library is an open public building and caregivers are responsible

for the supervision of the child/children.

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