

Pentwater Township Library Unattended Children Policy

Pentwater Township Library (Library) is dedicated to providing a welcoming environment that encourages children to visit the Library, attend programs, and use the Library's collections and technology. Library staff is available to assist and support children in using the Library. While the Library encourages frequent visits by children and their families, library staff cannot provide child care or assume responsibility for children's safety. Parents, guardians, teachers, caregivers, or chaperones are responsible for the behavior and safety of children at the Library. The Library is not responsible for children left alone without proper supervision.

Children, like all library users, are required to respect library property and to act in a manner appropriate to the use and function of the Library. Children are expected to comply with all library policies including the policy on patron behavior and responsibilities.

Children who are eight (8) years of age or younger must be attended and actively supervised by a parent/guardian or assigned chaperone (age thirteen [13] or older) at all times while in the Library. If children eight (8) years of age or younger are left unattended in the library, staff will attempt to reach their parent/guardian. If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, proper authorities will be contacted. Children who are nine (9) years of age or older may use the library unattended provided that they are able to follow Library rules and observe proper conduct.

If a child who is twelve (12) years of age or younger is left in the library at closing time, staff will attempt to contact the parent/guardian. If staff is unable to reach the parent/guardian, the local police will be contacted. Two staff members shall stay with the child until the parent/guardian or proper authorities arrive. Under no circumstance will staff transport or take a minor away from the Library building.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of the Pentwater Township Library at a regular meeting on:
04/16/2019.