

Lyons Public Library
Policy of Unattended Children

Reviewed Triennially

Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children in the library. The Lyons Public Library staff is committed to helping children with activities related to the Library; however, staff cannot serve as sitters, caregivers or disciplinarians. The library cannot and does not assume responsibility for the safety and well being of unattended children. The following policy is to ensure the safety and comfort of all patrons using the Library and to maintain an atmosphere conducive to reading and studying.

- I. Children aged five and under must be accompanied and directly supervised at all times by a parent or responsible caregiver of at least fourteen years of age. If the child is attending a library program, the accompanying parent or caregiver must remain in the library until the program ends.

- II. Children aged six and older may use the library unattended.
 - A. Children engaging in disruptive behavior will receive only one warning.
 - B. If staff is unable to determine which child or children are causing the disruption, an entire group may be asked to leave the library.
 - C. Staff will allow any child asked to leave the opportunity to telephone a parent or caregiver for transportation home.
 - D. If a child asked to leave indicates he or she will not have adequate care upon reaching home, staff will notify the Lyons Police Department.
 - E. If a child refuses to leave when asked, staff will attempt to contact a parent. Staff will call the Lyons Police Department if unable to contact a parent.

Policy approved on May 8, 2012