

# Safety of Children in the Library Policy

Neill Public Library encourages parents and caregivers to bring children to the library. Library staff have been trained to help children find library materials and to provide a variety of library services for children and youth. However, the safety of children/youth and the rights of other patrons require parents and caregivers to monitor and appropriately respond to the behavior of their children in the library.

- Children under the age of seven may not be left unattended in any area of the library. If it is unsafe for any child to be without an adult, s/he may not be in the library unattended.
- Adults with disruptive children/youth will be asked to remove them from the library.
- Unattended children or youth who are disruptive will be asked to leave the library. If the child cannot safely leave the library on his/her own, s/he may call a parent. If no parent can be contacted, library staff will notify appropriate law enforcement, depending on the severity of the situation.
- Children/youth who have not been picked up at closing time may call a parent. Any child who has not been picked up within fifteen minutes after closing will be left in the care of the police department. Under no circumstances will library staff transport children/youth in a vehicle or accompany them home.

Approved by NPL Board of Trustees 2/11/2005