

Harper Woods Public Library

Supervision of Children Policy

For their own protection, very young children may not be left unattended in the library. Responsibility for children using the library rests with the parent or assigned adult caregiver and the library staff is not responsible for providing supervision.

Parents may not leave children under age ten (10) alone in the library as the library is a public place and staff cannot be responsible for those unattended children. In addition, unless participating in a program for children only, any child that is age seven (7) and under must be within visual and physical contact of a parent, guardian, or caregiver age fourteen (14) or above at all times while using the library.

For those children ten (10) and older, parents or caregivers are still responsible and liable for their children's behavior in the library including any disruptive or unruly behavior; damage to materials, equipment, and furnishings; or injury to themselves or others. If an unattended child acts in a manner not in compliance with the library's code of conduct, staff members will take appropriate actions that may include contacting the police.

A child or group of children who have been warned of disruptive behavior and/or excessive noise and continue to exhibit the behavior will be asked to leave the facility. Appropriate progressive discipline measures, including the loss of library use privileges, may be enforced for repeated occurrences.

Any children under ten left at the library on a weekly basis for two hours or more should be considered abandoned, intentionally and purposely left for supervision by library staff. Care should be taken to document dates and times. This record should be submitted to Administration in a timely manner in order for further action to be taken.

AFTER LIBRARY CLOSING: Children under the age of sixteen (16) who are not picked up by the time the library closes may be referred to the police station at the library staff's discretion to wait for their ride.