

HALEDON FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY UNATTENDED CHILDREN IN LIBRARY POLICY

1. Children eight (8) years of age and younger may not be left unattended in the library. A parent or responsible adult must remain with the child during the entire library visit. Exceptions to this policy occur when programming requires children to attend on their own.

If parents expect to be busy in the library, they should plan to leave their child at home or bring an adult caregiver. One child cannot supervise another.

2. Unattended children between the ages of nine (9) and eighteen (18) are free to utilize the library as long as needed, provided their behavior is not disruptive. Parents are responsible for their children's behavior on library premises. **It is not the library's responsibility to provide child care.**

Children will be warned if their behavior is unacceptable. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Shouting
- Excessive loud talking
- Pushing, shoving, touching another person in an inappropriate manner
- Running inside the building
- Throwing any item
- Talking back or talking inappropriately to the library staff
- Using unacceptable language or curse words
- Taking or hiding another person's belongings
- Using a cell phone
- Roughhousing and horseplay inside and outside of the building
- Accessing inappropriate websites on the Internet, including but not limited to MySpace, Facebook, pornographic sites and/or sexually explicit sites.
- Violation of any rules and regulations as defined by Library policy.

If unacceptable behavior continues, staff members will complete a "Disruptive Behavior Incident Report," request the child leave the library, and notify the parents. If the child refuses to leave the building, the police will escort the child from the building and notify the parents. Continued infractions may result in suspension of library privileges.

3. Library hours are posted on the door. Everyone must exit the building at the posted closing time.

Adopted by the Haledon Free Public Library Board of Trustees on April 10, 2013