

**PLAINEDGE PUBLIC LIBRARY POLICY on
Unattended Children**

Adopted by the Board of Trustees March 4, 1998

Revised February 25, 2003

Revised October 19, 2020

The Library is a public place. Anyone may enter and use the Library. Young children left alone are vulnerable and at risk. Parents and guardians, not Library staff, are responsible for the behavior and supervision of their children while in the Plainedge Public Library, or on Library property.

Children, ages 10 and younger, must be supervised by a responsible parent, guardian, caregiver, or mature adolescent, age 14 or older. They must be accompanied by this person in the Children's Room, restroom, and in the entirety of the library building and grounds.

Children, age 11 and older may use the Library unattended for a reasonable period of time, provided they are able to maintain proper behavior. Children will be expected to follow the rules of conduct, as outlined in the Library's Behavior Policy. Children must have a cell phone and/or two telephone numbers of a parent, guardian, or other designated adult, so that someone can be contacted to pick up the child in case of a health emergency, library or unexpected library closing.

Violation of the Unattended Child Policy constitutes grounds for suspension of library privileges for the family.