



**ANKENY KIRKENDALL PUBLIC LIBRARY
ANKENY, IOWA**

The mission of Ankeny Kirkendall Public Library

Welcoming all to Learn, Imagine, and Do

SUBJECT: UNATTENDED CHILDREN

BACKGROUND: In an effort to provide a safe/secure environment for children using the Library, promote a patron friendly atmosphere, and insure a prompt, professional, effective response should a child become unaccounted for during a visit to the Library the following policy and procedures have been developed.

POLICY: The Ankeny Kirkendall Public Library Board of Trustees takes seriously its responsibility to promote and provide a safe, welcoming, and secure environment for patrons of all ages. Creating such an environment requires the participation of all who use the Library. Children and their parents are entitled to experience the Library without fear or concern for their basic safety.

PROCEDURE: A parent or accompanying caregiver is responsible for monitoring and controlling the child's behavior while at the Library. The following supervision expectations shall be adhered to while at the Library.

Ages Five and Under: All children five and under shall be with a parent or accompanying caregiver (age 14 or older) at all times while at the Library.

Ages Six and Seven: All children ages six and seven shall have a parent or accompanying caregiver (age 14 or older) in the building at all times while they are at the Library.

Ages Eight and Older: All children ages eight and older may stay at the Library, unaccompanied unless their behavior becomes a problem. In which case the parent will be called.

Child Remaining After Closing: It is the responsibility of parents to be aware of the Library's closing times. In the event that a child under 18 years of age is in the Library unattended at the time of closing, Library Staff and/or the child will contact the parents. If the parents have not been located or arrived within 15 minutes after closing, the Ankeny Police Department will be notified for further instructions.

Adopted by Library Board of Trustees:

3/2014

Revised:

March 17, 2016

March 18, 2021
January 16, 2025