

UNATTENDED CHILDREN - POLICY

The St. Francis Public Library encourages children and their families to use the library and strives to create a warm and safe environment for them. However, the care and safety of children ultimately rests with their parents/guardians/caregivers. In order to ensure the safety and well-being of all children using the library, the following policies have been established:

1. All children age eight years or younger shall be attended and **supervised at all times** by a parent, guardian or assigned caregiver at least 12 years of age.
2. Children nine years old and above may use the library unattended, as long as they are able to conduct themselves appropriately. The library's Patron Behavior Policy applies to all patrons, including children. An unattended child who behaves inappropriately will be asked to leave the library. Library staff will attempt to contact a parent/guardian/caregiver. If no one can be reached and library staff feel it is not safe for the child to leave the library unattended, law enforcement officials will be called.
3. Library staff will contact the proper authorities to ensure the safety of unattended children and /or to assist with discipline.
4. **The St. Francis Public Library assumes no responsibility for children left unattended on the library premises.**

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