



Child Safety Policy

Revised and adopted by the Bremen Public Library Board of Trustees, 5/18/15

The Bremen Public Library welcomes children of all ages and is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for all library users. However, the library cannot assume the role of a parent or parental authority and cannot assume responsibility for the care of juveniles under the age of 18. In accordance with the American Library Association's *Library Bill of Rights*, the library provides unrestricted access to all materials, facilities and services offered regardless of chronological age, educational level, literacy skills, or legal emancipation of its users. Parents or parental authorities who do not wish for their children to have access to certain materials, facilities or services should so advise their children. For the safety of our juvenile users and to encourage lifelong use of the library, the Bremen Public Library has adopted the following policy:

- Parents are responsible for the conduct of juveniles (under age 18) in the library or on the library grounds, regardless of whether they accompany the children.
- A responsible parent or caregiver must accompany children under the age of 7.
- If a child under the age of 7 is found unattended, the library staff will attempt to contact the child's parent or caregiver and inform them of the policy.
- If the child's parent or caregiver cannot be located, the library will contact the appropriate local authorities.
- Children age 7 and over may use the library unattended as long as their conduct is acceptable in a library setting.
- Unacceptable conduct – such as damaging library property, running inside the building, bothering other library patrons or staff members, or engaging in inappropriate activity as determined by the library staff – will not be tolerated, and patrons engaging in unacceptable behavior will be asked to leave.
- The library staff is not responsible for the care or supervision of minors on library property.
- Under no circumstance will a library staff member provide transportation to an unattended child.



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- In the event of a child left unattended at the library's closing, library staff will attempt to contact the child's parent or caregiver; after 15 minutes, library staff will contact the appropriate local authorities.