

Child Safety Policy

Winooski Memorial Library

The Winooski Memorial Library welcomes the use of its services and facilities by children. Staff members are committed to maintaining a safe space for community members, providing an environment that encourages study and exploration, and fostering a love of learning and literacy.

Appropriate Supervision

- Children under age 10 are welcome to use the library under the direct supervision of a parent or adult caregiver.
- Caregivers must be 16 or older, and are responsible for the supervision, safety, and behavior of the children in their care.
- Direct supervision means the child should be in sight and within hearing distance of a speaking voice at all times.
- Parents are responsible for the actions of their children in the library, whether or not the parent is present.
- Parents will also be responsible for any disturbance or damage done to the library by their child.
- Library facilities are not designed or, licensed to provide childcare needs or emergency care. The library and its staff are not liable for the care or supervision of children.
- All children visiting the library, unaccompanied or not, need to be able to provide the name and contact information of a parent or caregiver, in the event of emergency or behavior infraction.

Disruptive Behavior

Disruptive behavior is not permitted. Disruptive behavior is any form of behavior that disturbs patrons or staff, damages library property, interferes with library service or endangers the wellbeing of the disruptive child or others.

Library Actions

The library must not be used as a childcare service. Any child unaccompanied by a responsible parent or caregiver for an extended period of time may be approached for information concerning parents' availability. The parents will be notified of library policy. If the situation continues, proper authorities will be notified. Disruptive children, attended or unattended, may be asked to leave the library after one warning. In such instances, parents will be contacted, or if parent is unreachable, appropriate authorities may be contacted. Such situations are handled on a case by case basis. If parents, guardians, and/or caregivers cannot be reached, or are unresponsive, the Library will work with the Winooski Police Department as needed.

