



TORRINGTON LIBRARY

ENGAGING • ENRICHING • EMPOWERING

The Library has a responsibility to provide an environment that is safe and comfortable for every visitor who is appropriately using its services and facilities. Parents should be aware that the Library is open to all individuals. While the Library strives to maintain an environment that encourages reading and study, it is neither the Library's purpose, nor a function of the staff, to care for children in the absence of their parents, guardians or caregivers either inside the Library building, or on the Library grounds.

- Parents are responsible for the conduct, safety and supervision of their children at all times while children are in the Library and on Library property. Children under the age of nine (9) must be under the direct supervision of their parent, guardian or adult caregiver at all times; if not directly attending a juvenile program with their child, they must remain inside the Library building for the duration of the program.
- Children are expected to comply with the library's Behavior Policy. Children who are not using the library appropriately or who require excessive staff attention or supervision will be asked to leave the Library and, if, necessary the police will be summoned.
- Parents, guardians and caregivers are expected to be aware of the opening and closing times of the Library, bearing in mind that these can and do change. Inclement weather, power failures or other emergencies can occur and require unexpected closing of the building.
- If the library is closing and the staff is unable to locate a parent, guardian or adult caregiver, library staff is authorized to call the police. Under no circumstances may a library staff member transport a child in his/her car.

Additionally, parents should be aware of the content of the Connecticut General State Statutes:

"Sec. 53-21a. Leaving child unsupervised in place of public accommodations or motor vehicle

- (a) Any parent, guardian or person having custody or control, or providing supervision, of any child under the age of 11 years who knowingly leaves such child unsupervised in a place of public accommodation or a motor vehicle for a period of time that presents a substantial risk to the child's health or safety, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor."

Approved by the Torrington Library Board of Trustees on: July 19, 2011