

Unattended Child Policy

The Ogden Farmers' Library (OFL) welcomes and encourages families and young people (ages 18 and under) to visit the library, use its resources, and attend library programs and events.

Staff members are available to help and support our young patrons, but staff members are not able to act as disciplinarians or child care services. Parents, legal guardians, or caregivers are responsible for the safety, behavior, and supervision of children and minors at all times in the library and on library property.

During Regular Library Hours:

Youth Ages 7 and Below:

The parent/guardian/caregiver must be in the library and in sight of the child.

Youth Ages 8 – 10:

The parent/guardian/caregiver must be in the library.

Youth Ages 11 – 17:

Youth ages 11 – 17 may use the library unattended, but parents/guardians/caregivers are ultimately responsible for their safety, behavior, and actions.

Library staff will attempt to contact a parent, guardian, or caregiver in the following circumstances:

- An unattended child is engaging in behavior that is disruptive to other library users, staff, or the normal operations of library business
- An unattended child is engaging in behavior that is potentially harmful to the health or safety of the child and/or others
- An unattended child is left alone at closing time

If parents, guardians, or caregivers cannot be reached, or are unresponsive, the library will work with other agencies as necessary.

Closing Time:

If unattended youth remain at the library at closing time, staff will attempt to contact a parent, legal guardian, or caregiver. Staff will call 911 to report an abandoned child if:

- A parent, guardian, or caregiver cannot be reached
- A parent, guardian, or caregiver does not arrive within five minutes of closing

Two staff members will wait with the child at the library until police arrive. Library staff cannot, may not, and will not offer transportation home.

Adopted by the OFL Board of Trustees March 21, 2024