

UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY

The Goodnight Memorial Library asks parents to join us as partners in ensuring the safety of our younger patrons. Parents and guardians, not Library Staff, are responsible, at all times, for the behavior and supervision of their children while using the Goodnight Memorial Library. The Goodnight Memorial Library is a public place. Anyone may enter and use the facilities. Young children left alone in the building can be vulnerable and at risk. Therefore, the Goodnight Memorial Library Board of Trustees has adopted the following policy:

- Children 10 years old or younger, shall at all times be attended and adequately supervised by a responsible person (parent, guardian, other caregiver, or mature adolescent age 14 or older.)
- Children over the age of 10 years may use the Library unattended for a reasonable period of time provided they are able to maintain proper Library behavior according to the Library Code of Conduct.
- Children, like all library users, are required to respect Library property, and act in a manner appropriate to the use and function of the Library. Parents and guardians of children who are not using the Library appropriately, or who require excessive attention or supervision, may be asked to monitor their children more closely.
- At closing time, during power failures, or other emergencies, departure from the building is necessary. Children left alone in the library, or on Library grounds could be vulnerable. Every effort will be made to contact parents prior to closing. Two staff members will remain with a child left unattended at closing time. If the child is not picked up after 10 minutes, the police will be called. Staff members will stay with the child until the police arrive. Under NO circumstances will a staff member offer to drive the child home.

We ask each parent/guardian/designated adult to be familiar with the Library's hours and to make advance arrangements to pick up or otherwise transport their children.

Violation of the unattended child policy constitutes grounds for suspension of library privileges for the family.

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