

MARCELLUS FREE LIBRARY

Policy Name:	Unattended Children		
Section Title:	Public Space		
Adopted:	4/2017	Reviewed:	1/2025

1. Policy Statement

The Marcellus Free Library is a valuable community resource of materials, information services, and programs. These rules provide some general guidelines within which children, parents and caregivers can use the library safely and effectively.

2. The Policy

The library has the following expectations for children while using the library:

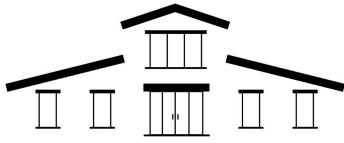
- Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied by a parent or a responsible child care provider while in the library.
- Children cannot run or shout while in the library.
- Food and drink are not permitted outside of the café area.
- Toys must be picked up before leaving the children's area and game room.
- Parents and caregivers are responsible for the supervision of their children and their behavior.

Self-supervised youth, aged 10 and up, are welcome to use the library if they observe general rules of conduct. If a child under age 10 is found unattended, the child's parents will be required to pick up the child as soon as possible. A discussion with the library director will be required to ensure policy adherence.

Out of an abundance of caution, parents should ensure that their children are sufficiently mature before allowing them to visit the library by themselves.

For safety reasons, the Library will have a minimum of two adults at all programs for children.

If the Library is closing and there are children left in the building without a caregiver, the Library staff will make every effort to locate the parent or caregiver to pick up the child. Failing that, the police department will be called, and the situation transferred to that agency.



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