

The Library Board and staff of the Nappanee Public Library encourage children to come to the Library and explore all the possibilities available to them. Library staff are concerned about the welfare and safety of children when they are left unattended.

The Library cannot be responsible for the care and safety of children while they are on the Library premises. The Library staff cannot be responsible for any unattended children.

Out of concern for the safety and welfare of children visiting the Library, the Library Board has adopted the following policy:

1. All children under the age of 7 must be accompanied at all times by an adult or an adolescent at least 11 years of age while on Library premises, unless participating in a program where attendance by an adult or adolescent at least 11 years of age is not required.
2. Children who are 7 years old and older may visit the Library by themselves as long as they are engaged in activities associated with the use of a public library.

Adult caregivers are encouraged not to leave children ages 7 to 10, unattended for more than an hour.

3. The Nappanee Public Library assumes no responsibility for children left unattended at the Library after hours.

Unattended children under 11 years of age present at the Library 15 minutes before the Library closes will be asked to phone a parent to pick them up. If a parent has not picked the child up by 15 minutes after the Library has closed, the library staff will call the Nappanee

Police Department to pick up the child. Parents will need to retrieve their child at the police station.

Parents dropping off children outside the Library should first ensure that the Library is open. The Library is not necessarily open to the public when there are lights on in the building.

4. Parents attending meetings on Library property whether sponsored by an outside group or the Library must
  - Leave their children at home,
  - Keep their children with them in the meeting, or
  - Have them adequately supervised by an accompanying adult or adolescent age 11 or older outside of the meeting or workshop.

The adult caregivers who bring or allow others to bring minor children under the age of 18 onto Library property shall be solely responsible for the care and safety of such children at all times and while such children are on Library property. The Library cannot be responsible for the care or supervision of minor children while on Library property including during travel to and from Library property.

Parents are encouraged to talk to the Director if they have questions or want additional information regarding these policies.