

ID	Title	Frequency	Last Revision	Last Reading
OPER-003	Unattended Minor	Annually	10-11-2016	01-12-2023

Roxbury Free Library Unattended Minor Policy

The Roxbury Free Library aims to provide a pleasant and safe environment for every child who visits the Library. While library staff will do what they can to ensure this, it must be understood that the Library does not act *in loco parentis* (in place of the parent). Library staff members cannot guarantee the safety of children left unattended in the Library. Parents should not view the library as an alternative to daycare. Staff will not be placed in the position of supervising children except when in scheduled library programs.

For the protection and well-being of children who enjoy the Library, for the general welfare of all persons using the Library, and for the prevention of undue disruption of normal library activities, the following rules apply:

- A.) Children under the age of six shall, at all times, be attended and adequately supervised by a parent or caregiver, and not by library personnel. School-aged children may use the Library unattended during non-school hours, or during school hours with parental notification, subject to rules and regulations concerning behavior, conduct, and demeanor.
- B.) Library staff members have the discretion and authority to prohibit any activity which they deem may lead to an unsafe environment and/or which may cause damage to Library resources. Acts of intentional damage to Library resources (i.e. vandalism) may result in an immediate suspension of Library privileges, notification of parents or guardians, and possible referral to local law enforcement.
- C.) Parents should realize in their absence that they remain legally responsible for their children's behavior. Roxbury Free Library assumes no responsibility for children of any age left unattended at the Library. Parents or guardians assume all liability for personal injury and damage done by their children to the Library facility.
- D.) If a child is injured, library staff will make every effort to contact a parent or caregiver. If the staff members are unable to reach a parent or caregiver, they will seek emergency medical assistance, at the parent's/guardian's expense.

Date of adoption 10-11-2016

Record of Adoption

Approved	<u>4</u>
Abstentions	<u>0</u>
Opposed	<u>0</u>