

XX. Unattended Children in the Library

The Bloomer Public/G.E. Bleskacek Family Memorial Library encourages visits by children and families and it is our desire to make this important visit memorable and enjoyable for the child. The purpose of this policy is to encourage parents and legal guardians to exercise reasonably responsible care, supervision, and control over the minor children in order to prevent juvenile victimization and to protect the health, safety, and welfare of children and also to make the library a fair and enjoyable environment for everyone.

- A. Children ages 8 and older may be in the Library unattended for a period of time not to exceed 4 hours, provided that their behavior is not disruptive to other customers or staff members.
- B. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult or responsible person over the age of 12 at all times while they are in the Library.
- C. Grade school children of all ages are welcome to ride the school bus to the library for sponsored programs and activities, provided their parent or guardian has arranged a ride for them following the conclusion of the program. Due to the busy and sometimes chaotic nature of these events, library staff are unable to manage how and with whom a child leaves the library.
- D. Disruptive children will be given a warning that he/she must settle down or will be asked to leave the library. If after a second warning the child continues to be disruptive, he/she will be asked to leave the library. If the child needs to contact a parent, they may do so and then wait with a staff person until the parent arrives. The Library reserves the right to suspend or revoke library privileges.
- E. In the event that a child is not picked up from the Library after it has been closed for fifteen minutes, local law enforcement will be notified.