Unattended Children Policy

Norwalk Public Library System

Parents and caregivers of children:

Please note the following Connecticut State Law

Sec. 53.21a. "Leaving a child unsupervised in a place of public accommodation or motor vehicle. (a) Any parent, guardian, or person having custody or control, or providing supervision, of any child under the age of twelve years who knowingly leaves such child unsupervised in a place of public accommodation or a motor vehicle for a period of time that presents a substantial risk to the child's health or safety, shall be guilty of a class A misdemeanor"

To maintain a safe and orderly environment for all Library users, and *to protect children*, the Norwalk Public Library System adheres to the above law and states:

- Parents, guardians and caregivers are responsible for the behavior, safety, and supervision of their children at all times in and on the Library premises. The Library staff is not responsible for the safety, care, or supervision of children of any age in and on the Library premises.

- Children engaging in disruptive or other inappropriate behavior will be asked to leave the Library. The judgment of the library staff prevails when requesting such action -- police assistance will be requested if necessary.

- Parents, guardians, and caregivers should be aware of library opening and closing times and make suitable arrangements to meet or transport their children. If a child is left at the library after closing time, the police will be called.

(Approved by Norwalk Public Library Board of Trustees 1-10-2002, revised 9-9-2010)