

# East Lyme Public Library

## Unattended Minor Policy (3/6/23)

Although serving children and families is an important part of the library's mission, it is not the Library's function or purpose to supervise or care for minors. Accordingly, the library and its staff cannot, and expressly do not, assume any responsibility to supervise or care for a minor on library premises. Rather, a minor's caregiver (such as a parent, guardian or other person having custody or control, or providing supervision of a minor) is responsible for the supervision, conduct and safety of such minor at all times while on Library premises. Children under the age of twelve, for their safety and well-being, must be accompanied by a responsible adult while on library premises, although library staff may in its discretion require **any** minor to be accompanied by a responsible adult or teenager while on library premises.

Library staff members do not monitor children leaving the library. If a child is not able to leave the library unaccompanied by an adult, the child should not be in the library without an adult. For privacy purposes, staff members do not sign in or sign out any library patrons.

Disruptive patrons may be asked to leave the library or the children's library. Examples of disruptive behavior include but are not limited to the following: swearing or using inappropriate language, yelling, bullying in-person or online, inappropriate public displays of affection, and destruction of library property.

Library staff is not responsible for monitoring computer usage. If a child is old enough to be in the library alone, that child is old enough to follow library internet safety rules and any additional online rules set by the parent(s). Parents alone are responsible for their child's online activities.