

UTICA PUBLIC LIBRARY UNATTENDED CHILDREN POLICY

1. While children are welcome at the Utica Public Library, we encourage parents or older family members to accompany children 12 years and younger and are adequately supervised at all times.
2. Parents should be aware that a library is a public facility and individuals from all walks of society make use of the facilities. Library staff cannot be responsible for watching or supervising your children. Unattended children who are disruptive or whose behavior infringes on the rights of other library users may be asked to leave the library. (We would apply this same standard to adults whose behavior was disruptive to others).
3. We also hold parents responsible for a child's internet use. If a parent is concerned about what a child might inadvertently access while using the internet, then the parent should accompany the child to the library and be present while the child uses the facility.
4. If a child is left at the library after the library closes, two staff members will stay with the child and take appropriate actions that may include contacting the police.
5. We are concerned for your child's safety and well-being; we encourage children to come to the library, to view it as a source of information and fun. However, parents should be aware that library staff are here to facilitate the library experience for all patrons and as such, cannot be expected to supervise children who are left here on their own.
6. Repeated offenses may result in restricted or suspended library privileges.

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