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Library Rules: Proposed Revisions

UNATTENDED CHILDREN

5-1-030 Definitions. Unless the context clearly indicates a different meaning, the following terms shall be defined as follows:

(3) "~~Una~~Attended" means not accompanied by a parent, guardian, or designated and responsible adult ~~is~~ at all times, while in the Library, ~~within 12 feet of his or her child who is five years or younger.~~

~~(19) "Supervised" means a parent, guardian or designated and responsible adult is on the Library premises and accompanying his or her child who is over five and less than eight years old, and monitoring such child's behavior, but are not necessarily located within 12 feet of the child.~~

5-1-050 Specific Library Rules.

(2) Whenever there is reasonable cause to believe that an individual has committed any of the following acts, such individual shall be given one warning and if the conduct which led to the warning reoccurs, even on a different day, then such individual may be directed to leave the Library for the remainder of the day. Violation of two or more of the prohibitions of this subsection, each of which results in a directive to leave the Library, within any six month period may also result in exclusion from the Library for a period not to exceed six months.

It is unlawful to:

(i) ~~Leave a child under age ten. Allow a child age five or under to be~~ unattended in the Library; ~~unless the child is attending a Library sanctioned activity;~~

~~(j) Allow a child under age eight to be unsupervised in the Library, unless the child is attending a Library sanctioned activity;~~



LIBRARY POLICY CITY OF TUALATIN

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CHILD SAFETY POLICY

POLICY: Tualatin Public Library welcomes youth of all ages to use its facilities and services. Tualatin Public Library is a public building, open to everyone, and a child's safety cannot be guaranteed. Children may encounter hazards such as doors, furniture, electrical equipment and other library patrons.

Responsibility for the behavior and well-being of children using the library rests with the parent, guardian or designated caregiver. Library staff members cannot supervise children in the library.

REGULATIONS:

~~Children age 5 or younger must be attended at all time by a parent, guardian or responsible adult. "Attended" means that the adult is within 12 feet of the child and in direct line of sight.~~

~~Children over age 5 but less than 8 years old must by supervised by a parent, guardian or responsible adult. "Supervised" means that the adult actively monitors the child's behavior but not necessarily within 12 feet or direct line of sight.~~

~~Children under 10 years of age must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or designated responsible adult caregiver at all times while in the Library. This means the caregiver must supervise the child during the entire Library visit by keeping them within their line of sight.~~

~~Oregon Revised Statutes 163.545 Child neglect in the second degree. (1) A person having custody or control of a child under 10 years of age commits the crime of child neglect in the second degree if, with criminal negligence, the person leaves the child unattended in or at any place for such period of time as may be likely to endanger the health or welfare of such child. (2) Child neglect in the second degree is a Class A misdemeanor.~~

~~When Library events require children to attend on their own, the caregiver must remain at the Library for the duration of the event.~~

Tualatin Public Library is not responsible for a minor's selection of library materials, attendance at programs or use of the Internet or other services. Parents, guardians or responsible adults are expected to accompany their minor children in the use of library materials and services, including computer use.

Unattended Children

Library staff will take the actions outlined below in situations such as:

- A child is observed to be unattended for more than 15 minutes.
- An unattended child appears to be ill, upset, or hungry.
- An unattended child is doing something unsafe, or another person in the Library poses a perceived threat to the child.
- A ~~minor~~ is not picked up at closing time.

Library staff will attempt to contact the parent or guardian. If staff cannot contact the parent or guardian, they may place the child in the care of Tualatin Police.

~~If a child is observed to be unattended for more than 15 minutes, or appears to be ill, upset, hungry or displaying misbehavior:~~

- ~~1. Library staff will make a reasonable attempt to find the parent, guardian or responsible adult in the library. If such person is found, the library staff member will reunite the child and adult, and will explain the library policy.~~
- ~~2. Staff will make a concerted effort to contact the adult. If such person is contacted, library staff will explain the policy and ask for the adult to make arrangements for the child to be picked up from the library building. Two library staff members will be assigned to remain with the child until a responsible adult arrives.~~
- ~~3. If library staff are unable to find or contact a parent within a reasonable amount of time, staff will contact the Tualatin Police Department. The Tualatin Police Department will then assume responsibility for the child.~~

~~If a child is found in the library unattended at closing time:~~

- ~~1. If a parent, guardian or responsible adult has not be located at closing, two library staff members will remain with the child for up to 15 minutes past closure. If the parent, guardian or responsible adult arrives, the library staff members will explain the library policy regarding unattended children.~~
- ~~2. If a parent, guardian or responsible adult does not arrive within 15 minutes of closing, library staff will contact the Tualatin Police Department. The Tualatin Police Department will then assume responsibility for the child. In such event, library staff will place a sign on the library front door stating "Unattended Child is in Care of Tualatin Police~~

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Comment [J1]: Specify age? Ex: under age of 16?

Comment [J2]: The following text will be moved to a procedure document.

~~Department” in English and Spanish and the address of the Police Department. The sign will not list the name of the child or caregiver.~~

~~3. Under no circumstance will library staff transport any child from the library to another location.~~

Code Adam ~~(For detailed procedure, refer to the Tualatin Public Library Code Adam Policy)~~

Tualatin Public Library follows Code Adam Policy when a child is reported missing.

When a child is reported missing, all library staff will stop work to assist in the search. Library programs and the staff leading them can continue but may be disrupted in the course of the search.

Library and/or City staff will search the building and block all exits. No one is allowed to leave or enter the building while a Code Adam is in progress.

If the child is not found within 3 minutes of the first announcement, library staff will call 911. Tualatin Police Department will take charge of the situation and instruct library staff in next steps.

APPROVAL: This policy is approved by Tualatin Library Advisory Committee xxxx, 20--.



LIBRARY POLICY CITY OF TUALATIN

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CHILDREN'S ROOM AND TEEN ROOM USE POLICY

POLICY: Tualatin Library is committed to providing an inviting, safe space for youth that is responsive to their needs. The teen and children's areas of the Library are specifically designed to serve the needs of younger patrons. The Children's Room is intended for children (infants through grade 5) and their parent(s) or caregiver(s). The Teen Room is reserved for the exclusive use of teens (grades 6-12).

REGULATIONS:

Access to the Children Area and Programs

Adults in the children's room must be using the room's materials or be accompanied by a child. Adults and teens not fitting this description will be asked to leave the area.

Adults who are supervising children are welcome to use the children's computers or to check out a library laptop for use in the Children's Room.

Children's programs are held for the instruction and enjoyment of children and their caregivers. Adults attending programs without children will be asked to leave.

Some children's programs may require children to attend on their own; the parent or caregiver must remain at the Library for the duration of the event.

Access to the Teen Area and Programs

Adults may enter the room to briefly visit with their teen or talk to library staff. All other adults will be asked to leave the area.

Tutors from the Tualatin Tigard School District may request access to the teen room, for tutoring purposes only, by contacting the Library Manager or designee.

Teen programs are held for the instruction and enjoyment of teens. Adults attending programs intended for teens only will be asked to leave.

LIBRARY POLICY: Use of Library by Tutors
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Teens are expected to adhere to the Teen Room Code of Conduct.

APPROVAL: This policy is approved by Tualatin Library Advisory Committee xxxx, 20--.

