



## UNDERAGE POLICY

The Stillwater Public Library Board and staff are pleased to welcome children and teens to the Library facilities and programs. A top library priority is the provision of a safe environment for all library patrons, especially children and teens. The function of the Library is to provide access to informational and recreational resources and programming. The Library staff cannot provide close supervision or take responsibility for an underage child. A parent or legal guardian will be contacted and asked to remove a child if their behavior becomes disruptive. A teen will be asked to leave the library premises with a copy of this policy to serve as notification to the parent or legal guardian.

### **Children 5 and under**

Under no circumstances may children five (5) and under be left unattended at the Library or in a program.

### **Children 8 and under**

An adult guardian must be present to supervise children eight (8) and under during their visit to the Library unless children are attending a library sponsored program for children. The adult guardian must remain in the Library while children are attending a library sponsored program for children.

### **Children 9 and older**

Children nine (9) and older may not be left unattended at the Library for extended periods of time that do not include programs.

### **At closing**

Children and teens left unattended at closing may be given a copy of this policy and a brochure listing library hours.

### **Children 12 and under**

If a supervisor is notified of a child twelve (12) and under on library premises near closing, the supervisor will assist the child in calling a parent or legal guardian. If the child has not been picked up by fifteen minutes after closing or if the child cannot make contact with a parent, the police will be notified. Two staff members will remain with the child until the police arrive.

### **Children 13 and over**

Children thirteen (13) and over on library premises near closing will be asked to use the phones to contact a parent or guardian, but will be required to remain outside the Library after closing. At the supervisor's discretion, the police may be notified.

Disagreements concerning any aspect of this policy may be appealed to the Stillwater Public Library Board