

## **K.O. LEE ABERDEEN PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### **Unattended Or Misbehaving Child Policy**

The K.O. Lee Aberdeen Public Library welcomes children to use its facilities and services. The library staff is committed to helping children with activities related to the library. For the protection and well-being of children who use the library, the following policy has been established:

- The responsibility for the care, safety, and behavior of children using the library rests with the parent/guardian or responsible caregiver. A child's attendant must directly supervise the child. It is not the responsibility of the library staff to supervise children.
- Direct supervision of a child who appears to the library staff to be under 11 years of age means visual contact with the child at all times and being in close enough proximity to the child to physically control the child. Yelling at, or speaking loudly to, the child is not physical control of the child.
- Children who appear to the library staff to be 6 years of age or younger must be directly supervised by a parent/guardian or responsible caregiver at all times.
- Children who appear to the library staff to be ages 7 – 10 years must have a parent/guardian or responsible caregiver in the library building. If a child is attending a program where adult supervision is not required, a responsible caregiver should meet the child in the library immediately after the program concludes.
- A responsible caregiver must be at least 13 years of age and provide their date of birth to the library staff upon request.
- Children 11 years and older may be in the library alone as long as they adhere to the City of Aberdeen's Patron Conduct Policy.
- All children should know how to contact a parent/guardian in case of an emergency.
- In the event of an unattended or misbehaving child in the library, library staff will make reasonable attempts to contact a parent/guardian or responsible caregiver. If a parent/guardian or other responsible caregiver cannot be located or the misbehavior continues, the police will be called.
- Behavior of a child is deemed to be the behavior of the parent/guardian or responsible caregiver. Disruptive behavior by a child that merits suspension or removal from the library building will also merit suspension or removal of the parent/guardian and responsible caregiver.

Board approved: 12-4-2018

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