

Children in the library

Parents or adult caregivers who bring children to the library are responsible for their protection and safety and must never leave young children unattended. Children cannot be monitored and supervised by the staff; because the library is open to all, libraries cannot be considered safe places for unattended children. A child under age 12 should never be left alone in the library. Children age 9 and younger must have a parent or caregiver in the immediate vicinity of, be in visual contact with the child, and supervise the child, ensuring that the child's behavior is not disturbing to other patrons. An exception would be children attending a library program without the parent or caregiver in the room. However, the parent or caregiver must remain in the library and immediately join the child at the end of the program. If a child age 9 or younger is found to be unaccompanied in the Library, staff will try to locate the parent or responsible adult caregiver. If a parent or responsible adult caregiver is unavailable, the Malone Police Department will be called. Children 12 years of age or older may use the library unattended provided proper behavior is maintained. Teenagers are treated as adult users. Children who do not follow library policies are subject to the same consequences as patrons.