

## **Unattended Children**

Library staff and trustees of the Hudson Area Public Library encourage children to visit the library to use materials and technology, enjoy library events, and do homework.

The purpose of the policy on unattended children is to ensure the safety of children using the library. The library does not serve in place of the parent and does not assume responsibility for unattended children. Any public place may be dangerous for a child who is left unattended.

Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied and directly supervised at all times by a parent or other responsible caregiver (age 14 or over).

Due to the location of the elementary school, library staff and trustees understand that children 8 and older may visit the library to do homework, use technology, or read after school. They may be left unattended providing they are mature enough to follow library rules and observe proper conduct. Such children are subject to the same rules of behavior as other patrons and the same consequences apply, including being asked to leave the library.\*

At closing time, staff members will not offer to drive a child home or to another destination. Staff will remain inside the building with a child for 15 minutes after closing. If the child is not picked up within 15 minutes of closing, staff may call for police assistance.

[\\*Hudson Area Public Library Code of Conduct Policy](#)