

SAFETY OF CHILDREN

Flathead County Library offers welcoming spaces that encourage children to explore, create and connect. Library staff strive to provide a safe environment for all patrons, but safety cannot be guaranteed. While Flathead County Library staff is committed to helping children with activities and materials at the libraries, library staff do not act as child care providers or disciplinarians. Children are expected to adhere to the same rules of conduct as adults. Please refer to the **Patron Conduct Policy** in the Flathead County Library Policy Manual.

- Parents, guardians and caregivers are responsible for their children while visiting any Flathead County Library location.
- Children under the age of 11 may not be left unsupervised anywhere on the library premises. If a parent or guardian cannot be located, the police or Child and Family Services will be contacted.
- Parents will be notified if a child age 11 or older is not able to follow the library's **Patron Conduct Policy**.
- Children who have not been picked up at closing time will be given the opportunity to call a parent. Children who have not been picked up after closing time will be left in the care of the police. Under no circumstances will a library staff member transport children in a vehicle or accompany them home.
- Organized groups of children, such as school classes, day care groups, and tours, must be supervised by adults in their group at all times while in the library.

Adopted: 2/23/06
Reaffirmed: 7/09/09
Revised: 12/05/12
Revised: 11/18/15
Revised: 12/5/18
Revised: 7/21/22
Revised: 6/26/2025

David Ingram, Chair
Library Board of Trustees