



Pima County Public Library

www.library.pima.gov

Unattended Children Policy

Purpose

To set forth the responsibilities of parents, guardians and caregivers whose children use the Pima County Public Library.

Policy

The Pima County Public Library welcomes children to the public libraries and hopes that the children will come to know libraries as warm, inviting, and enriching places. Libraries are open to the all members of the public. Parents, guardians and caregivers must realize that there can be risks associated with leaving children unattended. The Library does not and cannot act as a baby-sitter or day care center for children and will not monitor children who are left unattended.

To enhance the library experience for and minimize the risk to children, the following requirements apply:

1. The responsibility for the safety and well-being of every child using the library rests with the child's parent, guardian or assigned chaperone, not with library personnel.
2. Children under the age of six must be attended by a responsible adult or teen at all times.
3. Children age six and seven should be under the general supervision of an adult, but may be left unattended for a brief period of time.
4. Children age eight and over, who can understand and follow the Customer Code of Conduct, are welcome to be in the library unattended.
5. Children are not to remain at the library after closing. If anyone under 18, is left alone at a library at closing, or if a library closes because of an emergency situation, library staff will attempt to contact a parent, guardian or caregiver. If a parent, guardian or caregiver cannot be contacted, or the child is not picked up within 10 minutes after closing, library staff will call law enforcement who will assume responsibility for the child.
6. Parents or caregivers must assure that their children know what procedures should be followed if an emergency situation forces the closure of a library.