

CHILDREN IN THE LIBRARY

PURPOSE

The Board of Trustees [Board] for the Pewaukee Public Library [Library] welcomes and encourages families and children to come to our Library. We are committed to providing resources and programs that motivate children's interest in books, reading, and libraries and promote a learning environment. Staff members are here to assist children with their requests. Library staff cannot supervise children.

GENERAL REGULATIONS

- Responsibility for the welfare and conduct of a child using the Library ultimately rests with the caregiver. A caregiver is defined in this policy as a parent, legal guardian, or responsible person who is 14 years of age or older, who provides direct care for the child.
- **Children Age Seven (7) and Under** must be accompanied by and within view of, a caregiver at all times and in all areas of the building including the Children's Area and the restrooms.
- **Responsible Children Age Eight (8) and Older** are welcome to use the Library unattended.
- **All children** must abide by the rules and regulations of the Library. Children are expected to follow the Library's Code of Conduct.

STAFF INTERVENTION

Staff may, as needed:

- Notify a caregiver if a child needs additional supervision or when a child is in violation of the Library's Code of Conduct.
- Ask a child who is violating the Library's Code of Conduct to leave the Library.
- Contact local authorities to assist with the enforcement of discipline in the Library or to ensure the safety of an unattended child.

CHILDREN IN THE LIBRARY AFTER CLOSING

- Staff will make a reasonable effort to ensure that children leave the Library safely at closing time. If a child is left at the Library after closing, staff may contact law enforcement.

PARENTAL OPT-OUT

- The Library respects caregiver and parental autonomy over the welfare of children under their care. Accordingly, if a caregiver or parent desires to restrict their child's access to certain categories of the Library collection or to [Internet](#) access, they may contact the Library administration, which will make reasonable efforts to accommodate their opt-out request(s).