



CHILDREN'S SERVICES POLICY

The Bridgeport Public Library welcomes and encourages children to use the Library facilities and resources. However, the Library is a public building, open to all individuals, and unattended children are vulnerable. At all times, parents and caregivers, not library staff, are responsible for the safety, supervision, and behavior of their children.

Accordingly, to foster the safety and wellbeing of children in The Bridgeport Public Library, the following rules and regulations will be enforced:

- Young children must be under the direct supervision of a responsible adult or teen. Staff may, at their discretion, require any minor child to be under the direct supervision of a responsible adult.
- Like all library patrons, children are required to respect library property and act according to our Rules of Conduct. Children who are not acting appropriately, or who require excessive staff attention or intervention, may be asked to leave.
- Children must be picked up fifteen minutes prior to closing. The Library is not responsible for minors without a ride home. If a child is left at the Library at closing time, police may be called.
- Please note that the Library may close unexpectedly due to emergency conditions. Parents/caregivers should not direct their children to the Library in the event of emergency school closings, as Library operations may also be affected.
- The Library may restrict the use of certain equipment or restrict participation in certain programs by age.
- The children's areas of the Library is specifically designed to serve the needs of age-appropriate users. Adults in those areas not using youth materials or not using the area for the purpose intended, may be asked to use other areas of the Library.

Violation of this policy may result in temporary or permanent suspension of library privileges. Unlawful activity will be promptly reported to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Approved by the Library Board of Directors: 3/19/2025