



Children's Library Use Policy

The Dolores Public Library is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for families and children. The staff's role is to help children find materials for school and recreational use. The library's function or purpose isn't to be a child care center while parents or caretakers are outside of the children's area or library. In order to create an environment of safety and maintain an atmosphere where reading and study can be encouraged, the following policy applies:

1. All children, young adults and adults are expected to follow the library rules of conduct. Disruptive or inappropriate behavior will result in the individual(s) being asked to leave, and parents and/or the police department will be notified as deemed necessary.
2. The library staff is not responsible for the safety, care or supervision of children of any age, whether in the library or on library premises. Parents or guardians are responsible for the behavior of their children in the library.
3. Children seven years of age or younger must have a parent or caregiver (18 or older) with them at the library unless the child is here for an afterschool program. Older children (8-12) may be left unattended for a maximum of two hours, but may be asked to leave if exhibiting inappropriate behavior.
4. Parents or caregivers should be aware of library opening and closing times and make suitable arrangements to meet and/or transport their children. If a child under the age of 12 attending an afterschool program is not picked up by closing time an effort will be made to contact the parents. A staff member will not transport the child home or to any other destination. If the child is not picked up within 15 minutes of closing, staff will call for police assistance.