

Child Safety, Children's Room and Teen Room Policy

The Hull Public Library strives to provide a safe, welcoming, and inviting environment for young people of all ages. Recognizing that the library is a public building and the Hull Public Library has established the following Child Safety, Children's Room, and Teen Room Policies for the well-being of all patrons.

- Children under school age must be accompanied by a parent/guardian/caregiver. Library staff will not be responsible for supervising unattended children under school age. Staff will identify and contact the parent/guardian/caregiver to the extent feasible. If the parent/guardian/caregiver cannot be contacted within a reasonable amount of time, staff will contact the Hull Police Department.
- School-aged children and over may be unattended in the building for the period of time needed to select materials, complete homework assignments, or attend a program. However, the child must know how to reach the responsible adult should this need arise, e.g. sudden building closure due to inclement weather or power outage.
- Children and parents/guardians/caregivers should be aware of the closing times of the Library. Children must be picked up 10 minutes before the Library closes. Once the Library is closed, children cannot wait inside the building until they are picked up; it is not the responsibility of Library staff to stay with children. Staff may contact the Hull Police Department if a parent/guardian/caregiver of an unattended child cannot be located by closing time. The Library Director or Children's Librarian will contact the child's parent or guardian the next possible business day to explain the library policy and explain why the action was required.
- In case of a medical emergency when parents/guardians/caregivers are not with the child, Library staff will call 911 and then parents/guardian/caregiver, in that order.
- The Children's Room and Teen Rooms are reserved for children, teens, their caregivers, and friends, and those interested in children's/young adult literature. Adults over the age of 18 who are not accompanying a child or teenager may be asked to leave the Children's Room and Teen Rooms at any time.
- Children's and teen programs are also reserved for children, teens, their caregivers, and friends. Adults over the age of 18 who are not accompanying a child or teenager may be asked to leave the event or program at any time.