



Martin County Library Unattended Child Policy  
Approved by the Martin County Library Board: June  
2018.

At the Martin County Library, the responsibility for the safety and behavior of children rests with the parent or caregiver and not with library staff. Library staff cannot be responsible for children who are unattended or demonstrating inappropriate behavior. Children who exhibit inappropriate behavior may be asked to leave the library.

The following guidelines will be followed concerning the care and behavior of children:

- Children under the age of 8 must have a parent or caregiver in the immediate vicinity of (and in visual contact with) the child. The parent or caregiver must be at least 14 years old. A child can attend a library program without a parent or caregiver in the room as long as the parent or caregiver remains in the library and immediately joins the child at the end of the program.
- If a child under the age of 8 is found unattended, library staff will attempt to locate the parent or caregiver in the library and inform them of the Unattended Child policy. If the parent or caregiver cannot be found, library staff will contact local law enforcement. Failure to adhere to the Unattended Child Policy will result in being asked to leave the library.
- All children visiting the library must have contact information for a parent or caregiver in case of an emergency.