

## Children In The Library

The Southworth Library is the cornerstone of our community. The public is entitled to the very best information services that we are able to provide. Our goal is to provide our patrons with the very best library services available while maintaining a positive atmosphere and enjoyable work experience for our employees.

In an effort to achieve these goals, we want the Southworth Library to be a safe and secure environment for all who chose to use this community resource. We ask parents, guardians and caregivers to join us in protecting children from harm, minimizing risks and in providing a positive experience.

Here are a few guidelines to keep in mind:

- All youth ***under the age of 10*** must be supervised at all times; please keep children from climbing on furniture and shelving and running.
- Please use care going up and down the stairs and standing too close to the automatic doors
- We are not able to provide staff to supervise children; young children can become frightened and confused when in a new and different place. For safety and security reasons, do not leave young children unattended.
- Your children are sharing the library with many other users, some of whom need and expect a quiet library; encourage conversations with your children to take place in the designated children's area, keep conversations to a minimum, and keep the volume low; the level of noise which caregivers are accustomed to may not be acceptable in a library setting. Quiet voices are encouraged
- School-age children, ***under the age of 10***, are welcome to use the library at all times, unsupervised. If your child's behavior becomes disruptive and/or unacceptable and is not corrected when requested, the parent/guardian will be contacted for possible pick up and your child may be banned from the library for a period of time.
- The library is not a substitute for supervised day-care or after school care. Unsupervised children may become risk to themselves and others. Please find alternate after-school or other care for your children who need supervision on a regular basis.
- Due to the large number of children using the library and staff shortages, it is difficult for us to forward messages or phone calls for children. However, in emergencies, we will do our best to help out.
- Please be aware of library hours, and promptly pick up your child before the library closes.
- Review these use guidelines with your children before using the library.

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