



FLON PUBLIC LIBRARY

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POLICY: Children in the Library

LIBRARY COMMITMENT

The Flin Flon Public Library is a public building and open to all. The Library welcomes children of all ages and strives to create a warm and inviting learning environment. The Library offers programs and services that encourage children to develop a love of books and learning.

The well-being of children left alone at the Library is a serious concern. Library staff can never act as guardians or caretakers for young patrons and cannot assume responsibility for the safety of children visiting the Library.

The safety and well-being of every child visiting the Library is very important and to further their protection, the Flin Flon Public Library has adopted the following policy which applies to all community members, patrons, volunteers, and employees within the Flin Flon Public Library community.

POLICY

Parents and caregivers, not library staff, are responsible for the actions and safety of children while in the library.

When visiting the library, children under the age of 12 must be supervised at all time by a responsible parent or caregiver.

If a child under the age of 12 is at the Library and is unattended by an appropriate parent or caregiver, the RCMP will be contacted.

Caregivers between the ages of 12 and 18 must always have emergency contact information readily on hand.

While visiting the Library, parents and caregivers are responsible for the behaviour, safety, and supervision of children under their care.

Parents and caregivers should be aware of the Library's operating hours and recognize there may be times when the Library may have to unexpectedly close.

Children must always be supervised by a parent or caregiver when in the play area.

Children under the age of 16 using the Infopods (computer, Internet) must be supervised at all time by a parent or caregiver.

To ensure everyone safely enjoys their time at the Library, the following are rules for respectful behaviour while at the Library:

1. No running in the Library.
2. All puzzles and toys should be picked up and put away when play is finished.
3. No throwing toys or books.
4. No climbing on bookshelves.
5. No sitting on shelves.
6. Use of "inside" voices is always expected.
7. Intentionally trying to hurt another person will result in the offender being asked to leave the Library in the custody of their parent or caregiver.

Children of all ages are expected to display behaviour that is respectful of Library staff and which does not interfere with other patrons' use and enjoyment of the Library. If a child cannot comply with respectful behaviour, the Library will give the child the opportunity to correct their behaviour. A continuation of inappropriate behaviour will result in the child being asked to leave the Library in the custody of their parent/caregiver until this policy can be complied with.