



THE LEWES PUBLIC LIBRARY, INC.

POLICY ON UNATTENDED CHILDREN

The Lewes Public Library wishes to provide an environment that is inviting, pleasant and safe for all patrons. Children are encouraged to use and enjoy library facilities and services. While the library seeks to maintain a safe and secure environment, it is a public building and responsibility for children using the library rests with the parent or assigned caregiver. The following policies are adopted in order to provide for the general safety of children using the library.

1. All children eight years old or younger will be attended (i.e., within sight) and adequately supervised by a responsible person (e.g., an adult or a mature adolescent).
2. Children nine to eleven years old may be left unattended, provided that the person responsible for their supervision remains in the library.
3. Children twelve years old or older may use the library unattended.

If children 12 years old or older are left unattended at closing and attempts to reach their parents, guardian or caregiver have failed, the Lewes Police Department will be called and staff will remain with the child until an officer has arrived.

If children 11 and under are left unattended at any time and attempts to reach their parents, guardian or caregiver have failed, the Lewes Police Department will be called.

The Lewes Public Library assumes no responsibility for children left unattended on library premises.

Adopted by the **Board of Commissioners**
The Lewes Public Library, Inc.
March 11, 2014

Revised on July 14, 2015