

Young people ages 13 through 17 are treated as adult users. However, they are still legally the responsibility of their parents and should have an emergency contact available.

Closing Time: Children up to age thirteen who are not picked up or if not have transportation home at closing time will be asked for telephone numbers of people who can pick them up at the library. If transportation is not available within 30 minutes of closing, the police will be asked to pick up the child(ren).

Hours of Operation

Monday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

Friday
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

Saturday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m..

Telephone: 295-0487
Fax: 296-0973
Dial-A-Story: 295-9698

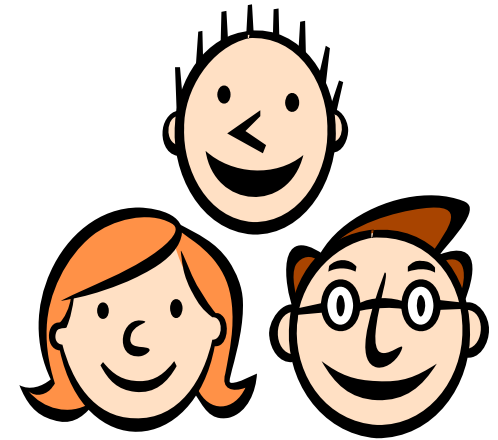
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Bermuda National Library:
Youth Services 2014



**Unattended
Child
Policy**

**Bermuda National Library
YOUTH SERVICES**

"Developing Lifelong Readers"

The Bermuda National Library, Youth Services Department, is dedicated to providing a warm, welcoming, exciting and safe environment for people of all ages. Sharing this environment with other people requires that all follow certain rules for public behavior on library property as established by the Bermuda National Library.

The Bermuda National Library, Youth Services Department, wants children to use its facilities and services. Children in the library should always be accompanied by a parent/guardian or assigned caregiver.

When children are left alone they may become frightened or anxious. If they wander through the building they may encounter hazards such as stairs, doors, furniture or electrical equipment. They may also become bored and restless and could disturb the enjoyment and work of others.

The safety of children left alone in a library building is a serious

concern of the library staff. **The responsibility for the safety and behavior of children in the library rests with the parent/caretaker and not the library personnel.** Librarians cannot be responsible for children who are unattended or demonstrating inappropriate behavior.

The following guidelines will be followed concerning the care and behavior of young library users:

Children from birth through age 6 must have a parent/caregiver in the immediate vicinity of the child. The assigned caregiver must be at least 10 years old and must carry emergency contact information. An exception would be children 4 and 5 attending a storytime or other library program without a parent/caregiver in the room. However, the parent/caregiver must remain in the library building and immediately join the child at the end of the program.

If a child in this age group is found unattended, library staff would attempt to locate parent/caregiver in

the library and inform him/her of the rules. If the parent/caregiver cannot be found, or if the child is found unattended again, the police will be called to come pick up the child.

If a child in this age group violates the rules for public behavior, the child and the parent/caregiver will be informed of the rules. If inappropriate behavior continues, the family may be asked to leave the library.

Children ages 7 through 12 may use the library on their own. However, parents are still responsible for the actions of their child(ren). Children using inappropriate behavior may be asked to leave the library. **If a child of this age group is not able to leave the library without an adult, he/she should not be in the library.** This is of particular concern in inclement weather and after dark. All children should have the telephone number of someone who can assist them in an emergency.