

NEW GLARUS PUBLIC LIBRARY

SAFE CHILD POLICY

Approved by: New Glarus Public Library Board of Trustees

Date adopted: May 11, 2004

Date amended:

One of the primary missions of the New Glarus Public Library is to provide a variety of services for children of all ages in a safe and secure environment. The library encourages visits by young children. It is our desire to make these visits both memorable and enjoyable for the child.

The Board of Trustees of the New Glarus Public Library recognizes that parents, guardians, and designated caregivers are responsible for the safety and conduct of children in their care. To support parents, guardians, and caregivers in this role and to ensure the safety and well being of all children visiting the library, the following Safe Child Policy has been established:

1. Parents and guardians are responsible for their children's behavior in the library.
2. Library staff cannot be expected to assume responsibility for the care of unsupervised children in the library.
3. Any child six years of age or younger must be accompanied by a parent, guardian or designated caregiver while at the library. If a child is attending a library program, it is required that the parent, guardian, or designated caregiver remain in the library throughout the program.
4. A child six years of age or younger may be considered "unattended" if a parent, guardian, or designated caregiver cannot be located in the library by the library staff.
5. A child six years of age or younger may be considered "unsupervised" if his/her behavior is disruptive or dangerous and the parent, guardian, or caregiver, though in the library, does not take the necessary steps to supervise the child's behavior.
6. If it is determined that a child is lost or has been left unattended, the staff member in charge will make all reasonable attempts to identify and locate a parent or responsible adult. If a parent or responsible adult cannot be found within 30 minutes, the child will be remanded to the care of the New Glarus Police Department.
7. Children over six years of age may use the library unaccompanied by a parent, guardian, or designated caregiver,

provided their behavior is acceptable. However, parents and guardians shall remain responsible for the safety and conduct of their children at the library, even when children visit the library unaccompanied.