



POLICY STATEMENT

The Friendswood Library welcomes patrons of all ages while aiming to provide a safe, pleasant and secure environment for all. As such, parents, caregivers and guardians are responsible for all minors in their care and ensure that they remain in compliance with Library policies at all times.

REGULATIONS

The following regulations are essential to ensure the safety and comfort of all individuals using the Library. A minor is a person who has not yet reached the age of 18. For the purpose of this policy, minor age groups are defined as:

YOUNG ADULT: Teens ages 12 – 17

JUVENILE: Children ages 6 – 11

PRE-K: Children ages 0 – 5

- Minors are the responsibility of parents, caregivers or guardians at all times when on Library premises. The Library has neither the staff nor legal authority to provide care for or supervise minors in the Library.
- The Library is not responsible for the selection or use of materials by or for a minor. The responsibility for Library material selections rests solely with the minor's parent, caregiver, or guardian. The Library does not act in loco parentis.
- Pre-K children must be under the direct supervision of a parent/guardian or a caregiver at least 18 years old at all times.
- Juvenile children must be within the direct line of sight of a parent/guardian or a caregiver at least 16 years old at all times.
- Young adults may be inside the building unaccompanied during Library business hours.
- During Library programs, Pre-K children and Juveniles ages 6–7 must be accompanied in the program room by their parent, caregiver, or guardian for the duration of the program. Juveniles ages 8-11 may attend a program on their own while a parent, caregiver, or guardian remains in the building.
- Minors, supervised or unsupervised, must adhere to all Library policies, including, but not limited to, the Patron Code of Conduct, Meeting Room Policy, and Study Room Policy.
- Minors are not permitted to remain unsupervised on Library property beyond business hours. If a minor is found at the Library unattended at closing time, staff will attempt to contact the parent, caregiver, or guardian. If the minor has not been picked up within 15 minutes of closing time, then the minor will be considered abandoned and law enforcement will be notified.

Failure to comply with this policy may result in the loss of Library privileges. If privileges are suspended, then the applicant may appeal in writing to the Library Director.