

UNATTENDED CHILDREN

The Amarillo Public Library prioritizes the safety and well-being of all patrons, especially children, while maintaining an environment conducive to library use. To ensure these goals, the following policies apply:

Supervision Requirements

- Children ages **12 or younger** must be accompanied and adequately supervised by a responsible person (parent, caregiver, or a mature adolescent aged 14 or older).
- Children over age **12** may use the library unattended, provided they demonstrate appropriate behavior.

Behavior Expectations. Examples of inappropriate behavior include:

- Eating or drinking in undesignated areas.
- Vandalism.
- Abusive language.
- Disturbing other patrons.
- Loud talking or rowdiness.
- Fighting.
- Failing to comply with the library's acceptable computer use policy.

If a child behaves disruptively:

1. Library staff will ask the child to correct their behavior.
2. If the behavior persists, staff may contact the caregiver or ask the child to leave the library.
3. Failure to comply may result in contacting the police.

Closing Time Procedures

Parents and caregivers must ensure their children are picked up promptly at closing.

- If a child is unaccompanied at closing, library staff will assist the child in contacting their caregiver.
- If a caregiver cannot be reached or arrives more than **30 minutes late**, the police will be notified.

Policy Violations

Failure to comply with these policies may result in the suspension of library privileges.