



McCulloch Children's Room Behavior Policy

Barrington Public Library is a warm and inviting place for children to develop a love of reading, learning and libraries. McCulloch Children's Room contains a wide range of educational materials, programs and services appropriate for children birth through grade 5.

In order to ensure that all children, as well as all other library patrons, have positive experience, we ask that all parents, guardians and caregivers be aware that children are subject to the same rules and regulations as adult patrons. Individuals who do not observe the following policy may be asked to leave the library, have library privileges suspended, or be subject to legal action.

RESPONSIBILITY

- All children under the age of 10 must be accompanied and continually supervised by a parent or caregiver. Siblings must be at least 14 years old to act as a caregiver.
- Parents or caregivers, not the library staff, are responsible for the safety and behavior of children visiting the library.
- Tutors may make use of the study tables. The library does not act in loco parentis. Please refer to the Tutor Policy.
- Children between the ages of 10 and 12 may be left unattended for up to 2 hours, at the discretion of their parent/caregiver.
- Any child who is home sick from school for any reason should not visit the Children's Room until they are well enough to return to school.
- The McCulloch Children's Room is for children accompanied by adults. There are adult friendly spaces on the library's main floor.

BEHAVIOR

- Disruptive behavior, such as climbing on furniture, running, shouting, use of profanity and throwing things will not be tolerated. Patrons will be asked to leave.

- Cell phone is limited to emergency situations to ensure children are always supervised.
- The use of video calls or virtual meeting platforms while in the Children's Room is prohibited.
- Proper attire and footwear are required at all times.
- Animals, except for guide or assistance animals, are not permitted.
- Beverages in covered containers are permitted; food is not.
- Both bottle and breastfeeding are permitted.
- Please leave the McCulloch Children's Room as you found it.

COMPUTER USE

- In accordance with the library's Internet Use Policy, it is the parent/caregiver's responsibility to monitor and supervise their children's computer use.
- OSL library card holders are given two hours access to public computers per day. The library reserves the right to adjust these time restrictions at any time.

CLOSING TIME

- Unattended children of age must know how to reach their parent(s) or guardian and should be picked up at least 15 minutes prior to the library's scheduled closing time.
- If a child is not picked by closing time, and after unsuccessful attempts to reach the parent/caregiver, the Barrington Police Department will be notified and asked to take custody of the child until a parent/caregiver can be located.
- Under no circumstances will library staff transport or assume responsibility for any children. The library does not act in loco parentis.

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees: March 19, 2019

Amended: January 20, 2022