

Public Health Emergency Unattended Children Policy

I. Purpose

The purpose for this policy is to detail the rules regarding unattended children at the library and is intended for the safety of minor children and the enjoyment of all patrons using the library. To the extent a conflict exists between this policy and applicable federal or state law, such law will govern.

The Library is a public building, and as such, is not a safe place to leave a child unattended. The Library cannot assume responsibility for the safety of unattended children.

II. Authority

These policies are adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library on June , 2020.

III. Effective Date

This policy is adopted effective June , 2020 and shall remain in effect until the expiration of the public health emergency.

IV. Impact on Existing Policies

Except as otherwise expressly provided herein, this Emergency Policy shall not alter, repeal, amend, or otherwise modify any provisions set forth in the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library Personnel Policies Manual (hereinafter "Personnel Policies") or any other policy or procedure enacted by the Trustees of the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library.

V. Unattended Children Under 14

1. The Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library welcomes the use of its facilities and services by all minors. As a public institution, its doors are open to all regardless of origin, age, background, and views.
2. While in the library, minors under the age of 14 must be in the company of a parent or responsible adult over the age of 18.

VI. All Unattended Minors

1. Parents or responsible adults, not library staff, are responsible for the behavior of minor children at all times. Disruptive or unsafe behavior will not be tolerated.

2. Parents or responsible adults are responsible for the conduct of their minors on Library premises and must provide such reasonable supervision of their minors as is appropriate based on the age and level of responsibility of each child.
3. Under no circumstances shall a staff member transport minors home or to any other destination.
4. Minors are required to adhere to the Public Health Emergency Addendum to Patron Behavior Policy which includes
 - 6 feet of physical distance from others
 - face coverings for minors above the age of 2
 - the use of hand sanitizer on entry
 - limiting the handling of library materials that are not being checked out
 - staying behind the screens at the service desk
 - limitations on the use of reusable bags.

Parents are reminded that under the appropriate circumstances, the following State Laws may apply:

RSA 169-B:41-43 Intentional Contribution to Delinquency (of a minor);

RSA 169-B:45 Parental Responsibility for Vandalism by minors;

RSA 169-C:3 (I) and 3(XIX) Neglect of Children through Abandonment.

This policy is effective this 26th day of June, 2020.