



**BERNARDS TOWNSHIP LIBRARY
POLICY ON UNATTENDED CHILDREN**

The Bernards Township Library welcomes children to use its facilities and services. Parents and caregivers, not Library staff, are responsible for the safety, behavior and supervision of their children in the Library.

- Children must be eleven or older to be left alone in the Library.
- Children age ten and under must be attended and adequately supervised by an adult, mature teen, older sibling or caregiver while they are in the Library. Parents and/or caregivers are expected to remain in the Children's Library area while the child is attending a Library program.

Children, like all patrons, are expected to behave appropriately while using the Library, being respectful of other patrons, staff and materials. *

Children who are disruptive or behaving inappropriately will be told by a staff member that their behavior is unacceptable in the Library and given a warning. If inappropriate behavior continues the child may be asked to leave the Library.

If the Library is closing, at the regular time or in an emergency situation, and a child's parent and/or caregiver cannot be located, the Bernards Township Police Department will be called after fifteen minutes of trying.

Under no circumstances will Library staff transport or take the child away from the Library building and grounds. Two staff members will be required to stay with the child to ensure safety.

* See "Patron Behavior Policy" Tab 3.

Adopted 04/1991
Revised 03/24/2010
Revised 11/18/2015
Revised 05/25/2022