

TRUSTEES' HANDBOOK – POLICIES
BOXFORD TOWN LIBRARY
Child Safety Policy

The Boxford Town Library welcomes children of all ages to use and enjoy its facilities, collections and programs. In order to ensure the safety and well-being of children using the library, the following policy has been established:

The responsibility for the safety and behavior of children in the library rests with the parent(s) and not with library staff. Therefore children, ages ten and under, must have a parent or designated caregiver in the immediate vicinity and in visual contact with the child using the library. The caregiver must be at least fourteen years old and must have emergency contact information for the children's parent/caregiver. Children, ages five and older, may attend library programs without a parent/caregiver in the room as long as the parent/caregiver remains in the library and immediately joins the child at the end of the program. Depending on the library program, parents may be required to remain with their child for the duration of the program or event.

Children ten and up may use the library on their own provided that they comply with the Boxford Town Library Rules. Children in this age group should have the phone number of a parent/caregiver that may be contacted in case of an emergency or if the child is asked to leave the building for violating the Boxford Town Library Rules.

Children must be picked up before the library closes. The parent/caregiver is expected to know the library's hours of closing and must also keep in mind that the library may close unexpectedly for reasons, such as, a power outage, inclement weather etc. The Library is not responsible for children without a ride home at closing. If no ride has arrived ten minutes after closing, staff will contact the Boxford Police Department who may wait with the child at the library or take the child to the Boxford Police Department Building where the child can safely wait to be picked up.