

## **MADISON HEIGHTS PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### **Safe Child Policy**

The Madison Heights Public Library is dedicated to providing a warm, welcoming, exciting, and safe environment for people of all ages. It is for the safety of each child that the library has adopted this Safe Child Policy. The safety of children left alone in the library is a serious concern of the library staff. The staff, however, has many duties to perform in order to serve all the residents of Madison Heights. Library staff cannot monitor the behavior and safety of children using the library. The responsibility for the safety and behavior of children in the library rests with the parent/caregiver and not with the library staff. Therefore, the following rules have been established:

1. Children under the age of 12, who are using the library's resources or who are participating in a library program, shall at all times be accompanied and adequately supervised by a responsible adult. A responsible adult is defined as a parent, guardian, teacher, or assigned caregiver 16 years or older, who must remain with the child in the library for the duration of the visit. Needless accidents can be avoided by parental attention. Disruptive children twelve (12) or over will be asked to leave after receiving one (1) verbal warning by the Library Director or his/her designees.
2. Parents are advised that, even in their absence, they are legally responsible for their child's behavior. The library cannot and will not assume responsibility for any child, unattended or otherwise, either while he/she is in the building or after he/she has exited the premises.
3. Children 12 years and older may use the library unattended for a reasonable period of time provided they are able to follow the library's [Code of Conduct](#). Any child old enough to use the library unattended must have the telephone numbers of a parent, guardian, or other responsible adult, who may be contacted to pick up the child in case of a health emergency, or other special circumstances.
4. Children who do not adhere to the library's [Public Computers Internet Acceptable Use Policy & Guidelines](#) and Rules of Conduct will be subject to the terms set forth in the library's Unattended Children and Disruptive Behavior Policy.
5. Parents must be aware of the library's hours and must arrange to pick up their children before closing time. If an unattended child is still in the library at closing time, the library staff will act according to the [Unattended Children and Disruptive Behavior Policy](#)
6. Violation of this Safe Child Policy may result in suspension of library privileges for the family.
7. Adult and minor Internet use will be monitored according to Library policy.

These Policies, Rules and Regulation are promulgated pursuant to Section 15-2 of the City of Madison Heights Code of Ordinances on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013