



Lyons Public Library Unattended Children Policy

The Lyons Public Library welcomes all children and encourages children to visit the Library. Library staff are committed to assisting youth using the Library.

Parents and guardians are responsible for the safety and behavior of their children. Library staff cannot provide childcare, supervise unattended children, or assume responsibility for the safety of children left unattended on Library premises.

Children under the age of 10 must be accompanied and actively supervised by a parent or guardian. "Accompanied" means that the child must remain within sight of the parent or guardian at all times. This is in compliance with Oregon Revised Statute 163.545.

Children ages 10 and older may use the Library unaccompanied. Parents and guardians are encouraged to consider whether their child is sufficiently mature to be in the Library alone and can adhere to the *Lyons Public Library Courtesy Policy*.

Children who are unable to abide by the *Lyons Public Library Courtesy Policy* will be asked to leave the Library. Staff reserve the right to contact parents or the Linn County Sheriff's Department if a child is in distress or behaving in a manner that disrupts Library operations.

Closing Time: Parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring their child has transportation to and from the Library. If an unattended child remains at the Library at closing without transportation, Library staff will make every effort to contact the child's parent or guardian. If the parent or guardian cannot be reached, Library staff will contact the Linn County Sheriff's Department.

Mandatory Reporting: Library staff are mandatory reporters under Oregon law (ORS 419B.010). If a staff member has reasonable cause to believe a child may be experiencing abuse or neglect, the staff member will report the concern to the Oregon Department of Human Services Child Welfare program or to law enforcement, as required by law.