



## Unattended Children

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### General

The Bradford West Gwillimbury Public Library welcomes children of all ages, and encourages and promotes children’s use of the Library. However, parents and guardians should be aware that the Library is a public place that is open to all members of the community. Furthermore, as in all public facilities, emergencies can occur. Responsibility for the safety and behavior of children in the Library rests with the parent/caregiver, not with Library personnel.

### Guidelines

1. The Library does not assume responsibility for the supervision of minors attending programs. Parents and caregivers are required to attend programs for children 3 (three) years of age and under. For most programs for children 4 (four) to 9 (nine) years of age, parents are not required to attend the program, but must remain in the Library building during the program. Parents may be required to attend specific programs as determined by the programming staff.
2. Children under the age of 10 (ten) years should not be left alone in the Library.
3. Children under the age of 12 (twelve) years should not be left alone to care for other children.
4. Parents/guardians are responsible for supervising their child’s access to all Library resources, including the internet.
5. Truancy is a school and parent issue, not a library issue.
6. If Library personnel suspect child abuse, they are required by law to contact the Police or Simcoe Muskoka Family Connections.
7. As a public place, the Library does not monitor the activities of its users unless there is a problem with conduct or a child is left unattended. In such situations, Library personnel are obligated to take action up to and including calling Police and/or Simcoe Muskoka Family Connections (1-800-461-4236).

### Related Policies and Legislation

Child, Youth and Family Services Act, 2017  
 PROG-01 General Programming Policy

