

# **Lambertville Free Public Library**

## **Safe Child Policy**

The library strives to be welcoming toward children of all ages and encourages them to use the library's materials, programs, and services. However, the library is an open, public building and parents and other caregivers must exercise the same care and caution for their children that they would in any other public place. Library staff cannot be responsible for any child (regardless of age) who is in the library, with or without adult supervision. Library staff are also not responsible for materials checked out by unaccompanied children, regardless of age. Parents and other caregivers are responsible for their children's safety at all times in the library.

- Children under the age of 9 must always be accompanied by a parent, a guardian, or a caregiver who is age thirteen or older.
- Staff members also have the discretion to require that a parent or caregiver accompany a child during visits to the library, regardless of the child's age.
- A staff member who discovers an unattended child under the age of 9 will attempt to contact the parent or guardian of the child. For the child's protection, if a parent or guardian cannot be reached promptly, the library staff will notify the Lambertville Police Department.
- When unattended children of any age are in the library at closing time, the library staff will attempt to contact a parent or guardian. If a parent or guardian cannot be located or contacted within fifteen minutes, the library staff will notify the Lambertville Police Department.