



**To ensure the safety of children, the Jackson Parish Library has in place and shall enforce the following:**

**The Jackson Parish Library wants children to use the facilities and services offered for its patrons. Children up to the age of four (4) must always be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or assigned caregiver. Children age five through ten (5-10) must have the parent/caregiver in the immediate vicinity of and in visual contact with the child. The exception to this rule would be children attending a library program. However, the parent is expected to remain in the library building and immediately join the child at the end of the program. Children age eleven (11) and older may use the library unattended for an appropriate period of time for their age and maturity level, provided they are able to maintain proper library behavior.**

**If a child up to the age of ten (10) is found unattended, the library staff will attempt to locate the parent/ caregiver in the library and inform them of the policy. If the parent/caregiver cannot be found, or if the child is found unattended again, law enforcement will be called by the library staff. If the child is in this age group violates the Patron Rights and Responsibilities, the parent/caregiver will be informed of the rules. If any inappropriate behavior continues, the family may be asked to leave the library.**

**The parent/caregiver, not the library staff, is responsible for the behavior and supervision of their children while using the library. Library employees cannot be responsible for children who are unattended or demonstrating inappropriate behavior while in the library.**

**If a child under the age of eighteen (18) is unaccompanied at closing time, the library staff may notify law enforcement to pick up the child. To ensure the safety of the child, library staff members will wait with him/her until law enforcement assumes custody.**

**Violation of this section is grounds for suspension of library privileges for the family.**