

**EVERGREEN PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**9400 S. Troy Avenue**  
**Evergreen Park, IL 60805**

**Policy Regarding Unattended or Disruptive Children**

The library is a place for reading, research, and quiet study. Persons of all ages including children are expected to respect the rights of other patrons and staff members by following the **Evergreen Park Public Library Behavior Code**.

The Evergreen Park Public Library encourages parents to consider their children's safety and well-being and the needs of other library users of all ages, and to talk with their children about appropriate behavior in the library. Children under age 8 must be attended by a parent or other responsible person over the age of 16 who is present at all times in the library, including during specialized programming for children except as otherwise indicated by the program director.

If at any time a child under 8 is unattended, the following will occur:

The parent or other responsible person will be paged to determine if he or she is in the library. If so, he or she will be asked to remain with and supervise this child.

If it is determined that the child is in the library without a parent or other responsible person, a staff member will attempt to call the parent and ask the parent to pick up the child. If a parent is not at home, the staff member will ask the child for the name and telephone number of another relative or caretaker. If the parent or caretaker cannot be reached within 30 minutes, Evergreen Park Police will be called to assume responsibility for the child.

If a child is being disruptive, library staff will take the following steps:

The child will be told that the behavior is not acceptable.

If undesirable behavior by a young child continues, the parent or other responsible person attending the child will be asked to intervene or if necessary to leave the library with the child. In the case of a child who is 10 years of age or older, the child will be asked to leave the library. If the child does not leave immediately or is not picked up within a reasonable time limit, the Evergreen Park Police will be called to take responsibility for the child.

**This policy has been reviewed and approved by the Board of Trustees of the Evergreen Park Public Library on 8-8-2001.**