

The Public Library of New London

Children's Room Policy

The Public Library of New London's Children's Room is a welcoming and accommodating space for children of all ages, parents, caregivers and teachers.

To ensure this we ask that you adhere to the following policies:

Children's Room Policies:

- Appropriate behavior (respect for library patrons, property, and staff) is expected by all children and adults in the library.
 - Disruptive behavior will warrant one warning; if the patron continues to be disruptive or act inappropriately (such as running, rough housing, screaming or swearing) then the patron will be asked to leave the library. If necessary, security and police assistance will be requested.
- No food or uncovered drinks may be consumed in the library.
- The Children's Room bathroom is only to be used by children under the age of 18 and adults accompanied by a child.
- Teens may use the Children's Room bathroom but they should use the teen section if they are in 7th grade or above.
- Library staff is not responsible for providing supervision and care of children, staff will not act in loco parentis.
- As specified in Connecticut General Statute 53-21a children under the age of 12 may not be left unsupervised in the library.
 - If a child under the age of 12 is left unattended a parent/guardian will be contacted, if a parent/guardian is unable to be contacted the police will be notified.
- Children 12 years and older may use the library unaccompanied by an adult. Parents are expected to be aware of the opening and closing times of the library. Staff is not responsible to monitor children.
- If a child is left at the library at closing time, the police may be called. The supervisor will attempt to call the parent/caregiver, if the attempt is unsuccessful or the parent/caregiver cannot pick up the child within 15 minutes the police will be called and assume responsibility for the child. A library staff member will stay with the child until a parent/caregiver or the police arrive,

Children's Room Computer Policies:

- The Children's Room computers are to be used by adults accompanied by a child or by children in 6th grade or under.
- Children must use and have with them a valid library card to use the computers.

- Guest passes will only be permitted if a child is working on homework and receives permission from library staff.
- Library staff may grant time extensions for homework only, otherwise children must log in again for additional time.
- No drinks or food of any sort should be near the computer stations.