



## **MONTROSE REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT CHILD SAFETY POLICY**

**Adopted 1/13/1999**

**Revised 10/29/2018**

**Revised 11/4/2024**

### **MISSION**

The Montrose Regional Library District (MRLD) fosters community by providing resources, encouraging reading, and supporting lifelong learning.

### **Purpose of the Child Safety Policy**

The Montrose Regional Library District is committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for families and children.

### **Guidelines**

- **Child Safety**

Although the Library is concerned with the welfare of all its users, the Library is a public place and cannot ensure the safety of children while on the premises. Parents, guardians, and caregivers are directly responsible for the conduct, safety, and supervision of children while on Library premises.

- **Appropriate Behavior**

The Patron Behavior Policy extends to children and teens as well as adults. Please refer to that policy if inappropriate behavior occurs.

- **Unattended Children**

A child may be deemed at risk when left unattended. Staff will encourage any unattended child to contact his or her parent, guardian, or caregiver before closing time. If the child or staff member cannot locate the parent, guardian, or caregiver either within the Library, or by phone, staff will call the police via the non-emergency police phone number to pick up the child.

Two staff members will remain with the child until the parent, guardian, caregiver, or police arrive. Under no circumstances will a staff member transport any child from the Library to another location.

- **Staff Role**

It is not the role of the Library to provide daycare services for young children left unattended in the Library. Staff has many responsibilities and cannot always tend to a child's needs. Staff will comfort, console, and tend to injured children as needed, and attempt to contact a parent, guardian, or caregiver. We respect the privacy of all Library patrons and will intervene only when a child is deemed at risk.