Wallkill Public Library
Children's Room Rules of Conduct & Child Supervision Policy

The Wallkill Public Library Children's Room has a wealth of resources and services available for use by children from infancy to 14 years of age. The library staff places the utmost importance on providing a welcoming atmosphere and accommodating the needs of our patrons in order to provide a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone. The Board of Trustees has approved the following to ensure this.

Rules of Conduct: Children's Room

- The staff's discretion will be used regarding the amount of time children who are unaccompanied by an adult may remain in the library.
- The staff's discretion will be used regarding discipline for inappropriate behavior. Discipline will consist of verbal warnings, being asked to leave the building, and/or having library privileges temporarily suspended. Inappropriate behavior is defined as any behavior that is disrespectful or disruptive to patrons and/or staff.
- The Children's Room has a zero-tolerance policy for the following behavior:
    - Any form of verbal and/or physical aggression towards staff or patrons.
    - Stealing, or willful destruction of library property.
    - Any form of serious misconduct that is disturbing to staff and/or patrons.
- Engaging in any of the above forms of misbehavior will lead to permanent suspension from the library.
- The staff will use its discretion in asking children to leave the library who display obvious signs of illness, even if accompanied by an adult.
- Staff will use its discretion in deciding when a situation requires that police be notified.
- Children under 10 years of age must be accompanied and monitored by a parent or caregiver at all times. A caregiver can be a responsible young adult at the discretion of the staff. Please see the **Child Supervision Policy below** for more information.

Child Supervision Policy

- Children under 10 years of age must be supervised by a parent, caregiver, or older sibling (who is at least 15 years old) at all times. This person is responsible for their child's behavior and must remain in the Children's Room with the child.
- If a child who is under 10 is found in the Children's Room without a parent or caregiver, every attempt will be made to find the parent or caregiver. If this cannot be done, the library staff may call the Shawangunk Police Department.
- Children 10 years of age or older can use the library without adult supervision but they must have the current phone numbers and home address for their parents or caregivers with them. These children are responsible for their own behavior and will be asked to leave the library if they do not follow established rules.
- It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to know the library's opening and closing times. Library staff will not leave a child waiting for a ride at closing time. Staff will wait with the child for 15 minutes and if transportation has not appeared the Shawangunk Police Department will be contacted.

Approved by the Wallkill Public Library Board of Trustees – 10/05/2026