



Unattended Vulnerable Adult Policy

The Marion Public Library strives to provide a welcoming and safe environment for all community members. The Library is particularly concerned for the safety of vulnerable adults* in and around the library. A parent/guardian caregiver 18 years of age or older must be responsible for monitoring the activities and managing the behavior of vulnerable adults during their library visits. Staff is not expected to monitor or prevent vulnerable adults from leaving the building/grounds or to assume responsibility for monitoring their behavior.

The library will adhere to the following guidelines:

- Vulnerable adults, who can understand and follow rules of conduct and who can care for themselves are welcomed to be in the library unattended. Vulnerable adults will be expected to follow the rules of conduct outlined in our code of conduct policy. They should have contact information for a parent/guardian care giver who can assist them in case of emergency.
- Vulnerable adults who are unable to or unwilling to care for themselves must be attended and have adequate supervision at all times.
- Staff will attempt to contact a parent/guardian caregiver when a vulnerable adult's:
 - Health or safety is in doubt
 - Behavior disturbs other library users
 - Actions violate any rules of the code of conduct for library patrons
 - Parent/guardian caregiver is not present at closing time

Every reasonable effort will be made by staff to assist the vulnerable adult in contacting the appropriate adult. If no responsible adult is reached, or the vulnerable adult is not picked up within 15 minutes of library closing, staff may notify police.

*A vulnerable adult is an individual over the age of 18 who is mentally or physically challenged to a degree that significantly impairs the individual's ability to provide adequately for his/her own care or manage his/her own behavior without assistance.

Adopted by the Marion Library Board of Trustees

Sept 20, 2022