



## **FARMINGTON PUBLIC LIBRARY**

### **Guardian Responsibility Policy**

Approved by Library Advisory Board April 2019

Next review April 2021

Managed by Library Security Officer, Library Director, and/or their designee

#### **1. GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

- a. The Farmington Public Library (“Library”) welcomes the use of its facilities and services by children of all ages, and adults at all learning levels. Pursuant to Municipal City Code 16-4-7 (Persons permitted use of public libraries).
- b. It is the intention of the Library to ensure the safety of patrons in the facility, but we cannot assume responsibility for unattended children, or special needs adults.

#### **2. GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITY**

- a. The responsibility for the welfare and the behavior of children and special needs adults using the Library remains at all times with the parent/guardian/caregiver or any assigned chaperone (collectively referred to for convenience in this policy as “Guardian.”) Library staff will not assume responsibility for a patron’s safety and/or comfort when they are unattended by their guardian.
- b. The Library respects the privacy of all of its patrons, but will intervene when, in the opinion of its staff, the safety and well-being of any patron appears to be threatened. If a child or special needs adult is unattended, it may be necessary to contact authorities such as the Police or other agency either to assist with the enforcement of discipline in the Library or to ensure the safety of the child or special needs adult.
- c. Guardians may not use the Library as an alternative to daycare or otherwise in lieu of a Guardian.
  - i. Only children who are sufficiently mature to understand the purpose of a library and its rules and regulations may visit the Library without a parent.
  - ii. Even if the child is unaccompanied, parents continue at all times to be legally responsible for their child’s behavior. Pursuant to Municipal City Code 16-4-6 (Liability of parent or guardian for acts of minor).
- d. The Library is not responsible for unaccompanied children either prior to opening or after closing hours. Parents of unattended school-aged children must be aware of Library hours. The Library is not responsible for children outside the building at any time.