



## **POLICY: Children in the Library**

### **Purpose**

To define the responsibilities of parents, guardians, and staff with respect to children and to define Ilsley's expectations of children's behavior in the library.

### **Statement of Policy**

A person's right to use the library shall not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

Children are one of the library's largest groups of users. Volunteers and members of the Ilsley staff are expected to welcome and assist children in the library at all times. Neither the staff nor the library assumes the role of parents or guarantees the safety of children left unattended. The library does not report suspected truancies.

Children are encouraged to use the computers in the children's section of the library, which are not filtered but where content is required to be appropriate for all viewers. However children may also use their own or any of the library's public computers. Parents or guardians have full responsibility to oversee and monitor their children's behavior and their selection of library materials, computers, and the Internet.

Like other users of the library, children are expected to observe the library's Rules of Conduct and not to disturb other patrons.

A responsible person over the age of 12 must at all times supervise children younger than 8 unless the child is attending a scheduled library program that does not require additional supervision.

As required by law, the library will disclose information about what a minor who is under the age of 16 ("The Law of Public Libraries") has viewed or borrowed upon the request of the minor's parent or guardian.

### **Definitions**

"Children" means all persons younger than 16.

### **Sources**

"The Law of Public Libraries." A joint publication of the Office of the Secretary of State and the Vermont Department of Libraries. Updated April 2010.

[http://libraries.vermont.gov/sites/libraries/files/PublicLibraries/Trustees/law\\_of\\_public\\_libraries.pdf](http://libraries.vermont.gov/sites/libraries/files/PublicLibraries/Trustees/law_of_public_libraries.pdf)

Adopted by the Ilsley Public Library Board of Trustees on September, 1995  
Amended on October 15, 2018; November 9, 2020.