

Use of the Library by Minors Policy

It is the intention of the Southwick Public Library to provide quality materials and programs for the minor population of the greater Southwick community. In order to provide for the general safety of children using the library, the following policies must be observed:

1. Children aged 5 and under must be accompanied by a parent or responsible childcare provider (either an adult or adolescent aged 14 or older) at all times during the child's visit to the library. The Children's Librarians are not to be considered to be childcare providers.
2. Children of age 6 to 9 must be accompanied by a parent or responsible childcare provider (either an adult or an adolescent aged 14 or older) in the library, but may use the Children's Library while the responsible party uses Adult Services.
3. Children of age 10 to 16 may use the library unaccompanied by an adult but must have a telephone number with them at which a parent or responsible childcare provider may be reached in an emergency.

Parents and caregivers should be aware of the library's hours. The Southwick Public Library expects children to be picked up at the time of the library closing- even in the cases of weather related and emergency closings. There is to be no loitering at the Library after closing.

If a child's ride does not arrive by the time of library closing, two staff members will wait with the child. If the ride does not arrive within 30 minutes, the Southwick Police Department will be notified. If at the time of closing, two librarians are not able to wait with the child for the 30 minutes, the Southwick Police Department will be notified.

Library Hours are as follows:

Monday & Tuesday 10am-8pm

Wednesday 1pm-8pm

Thursday & Friday 10am-5pm

Saturday 10am-1pm

*Hours are subject to change due to emergencies, weather related conditions, etc.

Adopted by the Southwick Public Library Board of Trustees 12/10/2019, updated May 11, 2022