

## **ANDERSON PUBLIC LIBRARY SAFE CHILD POLICY**

Parents or caregivers are responsible for the behavior of their children in the library at all times. Children under the age of eight, or who have emotional or social difficulty, must be attended and adequately supervised by a parent or other responsible caregiver age twelve or older at all times while in the library.

### **Philosophy**

The staff of Anderson Public Library is concerned about the safety and wellbeing of all its customers. We welcome all children and offer many programs specially created for children to encourage a lifelong appreciation of books and other resources.

The library is a public building and is open to everyone, law-abiding and otherwise. Due to the many responsibilities of the library staff, monitoring each child's behavior and location is not possible; library staff do not take over parental responsibilities for children when they come into the library.

Children left unattended are at risk, and there are many factors that could place them in danger; a child could be tempted to go off with a stranger or could become ill, for example. Either of these or other emergencies could take place in a public building such as the library. It is for the safety of each child that Anderson Public Library has adopted this Safe Child Policy.