



Children in the Library

The Pierson Library welcomes and encourages children to use the library to learn, explore, play, connect, and enjoy themselves. While staff strive to maintain a safe and welcoming environment for all, the library is a public building open to all. Parents and caregivers are responsible for their children's safety and behavior while in this public space.

Please review the following guidelines:

- Children ages 10 and older may use the library unattended, provided they are able to follow the library's Code of Conduct.
- Children aged 9 and under must be always supervised by a responsible caregiver aged 14 or older while in the library.
- Library staff cannot provide direct supervision or monitor unattended minors. Staff are not responsible for any consequences of parents, legal guardians, or caregivers not fulfilling their responsibilities.
- Children ages 10 and older may enter and leave the building on their own; staff cannot sign minors in or out.
- Parents or guardians are responsible for children's use of the library collection and computers.
- Children and teens who violate the library's Code of Conduct may be asked to leave for the day or may face a longer suspension of library privileges. When appropriate, staff will attempt to contact a parent or guardian.
- Children and teens should have emergency contact information readily available and be able to contact caregivers independently, as needed. The library is not responsible for retaining this information.
- Staff will assist lost or unattended children in locating a parent, guardian, or responsible caregiver within the building. If no responsible person can be found or reached, the police will be contacted.
- For their safety, children and teens must be picked up on or before the library closes. If a child or teen ages 10–17 is not picked up at closing time, staff will attempt to contact a parent or guardian. Two staff members will wait with the child or teen for up to 15 minutes after closing. If no pickup occurs within that time, staff will call Shelburne Police to wait with the child or teen. Repeated late pickups may result in a temporary library suspension for the child or teen.

Approved on 6/18/26