



212 South Gaston Street
Brevard, North Carolina 28712
(828) 884-3151 • library.transylvaniacounty.org

Transylvania County Library Safe Child Policy

The Transylvania County Library (TCL) welcomes children to enjoy its services. Library staff is committed to helping children develop a love of reading and learning. We want every child to have a positive experience each time they visit the library.

Library staff strives to provide safe and welcoming spaces for people of all ages. The libraries are, however, public buildings and safety cannot be guaranteed. It is the responsibility of parents and caregivers to ensure the safety of their children both within library buildings and on library grounds.

Responsibility

- Parents and caregivers are responsible for the safety, behavior, and care of their children at all times, even if they are not immediately accompanying the child.
- Library staff do not act as child-care providers or disciplinarians.
- In accordance with NC GS 14-318.6b and NC GS 7B-301(a), library staff will report suspected abuse or neglect to local law enforcement and to the Transylvania County Department of Social Services.

Supervision

- While at TCL, children age 9 or younger must be accompanied by a parent or responsible caregiver. Children age 7 or younger must be directly supervised at all times. If a caregiver cannot be located, law enforcement or the Department of Social Services will be contacted to provide care.
- Children age 10 or older may visit the libraries unattended, at the discretion of a parent or guardian. Unaccompanied children must be mature enough to follow all library rules and attend to their own safety.
- Organized groups of children visiting TCL, such as school classes, day care groups, and tours, must be supervised at all times.
- If a child has not been picked up at closing time, law enforcement or the Department of Social Services may be contacted to provide care. Under no circumstances will library staff transport children or accompany them home.

Behavior

- The TCL Code of Conduct Policy applies to all patrons, regardless of age.
- Unaccompanied children who do not follow the Code of Conduct Policy may be asked to leave the premises if, after a warning, the behavior continues. Children may call a parent or caregiver before being required to leave the library.

*Adopted by the Transylvania County Library Board of Trustees: 5/18/2000
Revised by the Transylvania County Library Board of Trustees: 11/15/2007
Revised & retitled by the Transylvania County Library Board of Trustees: 9/17/2020 (previously titled "Policy on Unattended Children")*