

Oil Region Library Association

UNATTENDED MINORS POLICY

While every effort is made to ensure a safe and comfortable environment for everyone, Oil Region Library Association (ORLA) does not provide supervision for unattended minors in our locations. Children requiring supervision may not be unattended or left in the care of others who are unable or unwilling to provide adequate care.

GUIDELINES:

- Because many children and teens view ORLA sites as safe and informative places, sometimes they visit the ORLA sites while they are truant from school. In many cases it is difficult to determine if children are truant, are home-schooled, attend private schools that are off for the day, or may be at the ORLA site for other reasons. ORLA does not report children truant, except in instances where staff are concerned about repetitive truancy and, under Mandated Reporter guidelines, staff may report to authorities.
- The ORLA staff or security will attempt to notify the parent/caregiver if:
 - The child is frightened or anxious while alone at the ORLA location(s)
 - The child's health or safety may be in danger
 - The child's behavior disturbs other users of the ORLA location(s)
- The ORLA staff or security will contact Child Protective Services for those children whose basic needs for food, rest, parental supervision or attention are not being fulfilled. The ORLA staff and security are recognized as Mandated Reporters under Pennsylvania State Code § 42.42.
- The ORLA staff or security will notify the local police if the ORLA location is closing, at the scheduled time or in an emergency situation, and a parent or guardian of a child cannot be located in the building or by phone.
 - If a child is waiting to be picked up, staff will wait until 15 minutes after closing. If the parent or guardian has not arrived, staff or security will call the local police. Two ORLA staff members will remain with the child until the police arrive.
 - Staff may not drive children home.