

## Child Safety Policy

The Board of Trustees and library staff of the Haston Free Public Library are committed to providing a safe, secure, and welcoming environment for library patrons of all ages. With regard to younger patrons, the following regulations have been established as policy.

- Children aged 9 and younger must be directly supervised during visits to the library by a parent or responsible caregiver (an adult or adolescent 14 years or older)
- Children aged 10 to 13 may be unaccompanied, provided they are able to maintain proper library behavior. A child may be asked to leave the building if his or her behavior is unacceptable. It is the parent's responsibility to determine when their children are sufficiently mature to spend time at the library unattended.
- Parents or caregivers should make sure that children have their contact information with them when they are unaccompanied at the library. Children should know when they are expected to be home or picked up and by whom.
- Parents or caregivers are responsible for their children's in-library use of library resources, both in print and online. Supervision of materials the child may use/borrow is the responsibility of the parent/caregiver. The Library Board of Trustees and staff assume no responsibility for harm of any type arising from the use of any information, software or data obtained from the Internet, or other library resources.
- Children must be picked up promptly when the library closes. Library staff will first attempt to notify the parents or caregiver if children younger than 14 remain at the library at closing. If the parents or caregiver cannot be contacted, library staff will contact the North Brookfield Police Department for assistance.
- The Haston Library is a public building open to all. Parents and caregivers, not library staff, are responsible for the safety and actions of children visiting the library. This includes responsibility for any damage done to the library or its property.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees  
October 1, 2008  
Rev. February 2022