



8 Route 129 | Loudon, NH 03307 | MaxfieldLibrary.com | (603)798-5153

### **Safe Child Policy**

Maxfield Public Library encourages children of all ages to visit the library. The library provides an array of services to children and young adults including educational and entertaining programs, reading materials, internet access, and study areas.

Maxfield Public Library staff do not act in loco parentis. Parents and guardians are responsible for the behavior and safety of children visiting the library.

- Children are held to the standards set forth in the Patron Behavior Policy.
- Children aged 6 and younger must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or other caregiver aged 14 or older who will remain near the child at all times, including while they are in the Children's Room, attending a library program, and visiting the restroom.
- Children between the ages of 7-10 who are engaged in a library sponsored program may be left unattended for the duration of the program as long as the child's accompanying caregiver remains on library premises and the child follows the Patron Behavior Policy.
- Children between the ages of 11-17 may visit the library unattended at the discretion of a parent/guardian. A parent/guardian is responsible for the behavior of minor children at all times, even if they are not in the library with the child. However, if the adult feels it is unsafe for the child to leave the building without supervision, the child should not be in the library unattended. Library staff may not prevent anyone from leaving library premises.
- If children are attending library programs, the parent/guardian must be aware of the times of the programs so that their children do not have to wait unreasonable lengths of time to be picked up.
- If a child is left at the library without a safe way to get home, library staff will make every effort to contact the parent or caregiver who is not in the library to come and pick up the child or to find a safe way home. If a responsible adult cannot be located or if nobody has picked up the child before the library closes, library staff may contact the Loudon Police Department who will then assume responsibility for the child. Unattended children will not be left outside the library.
- Library staff members will not transport children from the library to any other location, including the Loudon Police Department.

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Trustee

3/2/26  
Date

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*Approved 2026*