

# **PRESCOTT VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

## **UNATTENDED CHILDREN and VULNERABLE INDIVIDUALS POLICY**

The Prescott Valley Public Library welcomes individuals of all ages and abilities. However, the Library is not a child care facility and is not a safe environment to leave children and vulnerable individuals unattended.

The responsibility for the safety and behavior of children and/or vulnerable individuals in the Library rests with their parents, legal guardians, or other responsible caregivers.

Library staff is not responsible for the care of unattended children or vulnerable individuals in the Library.

Children under ten years old must be under the supervision of an actively engaged parent/caregiver of at least 12 years of age and must be in the immediate vicinity of and in visual contact with the child while in the Library, including the auditorium, the Crystal Room, the observation desk, and the Library grounds.

Vulnerable individuals who require a caregiver must be under the direct supervision of an actively engaged caregiver over the age of 18, and must be in the immediate vicinity of and in visual contact with the individual while in the Library, including the auditorium, the Crystal Room, the observation deck and the Library grounds.

Library staff will attempt to locate the parents or responsible adult caregivers of unattended children and/or vulnerable individuals in the Library. Library staff will attempt to contact them via the phone number provided by the child or individual or by the phone number(s) on record. If Library staff is unable to contact the parent/guardian, the Prescott Valley Police Department will be called at the nonemergency number of 928-772-9267.

Disruptive behavior will be handled according to the Code of Conduct Policy.

If unattended minors and/or vulnerable individuals are in the Library at closing, more than one staff member will wait ten minutes for the parents or adult caregivers to arrive. If the parent or adult caregiver does not arrive by ten minutes after closing, the Prescott Valley Police Department will be called. The Library Staff will wait for the police to arrive.

**Revised and Adopted: December 3, 2019**