Ceresco Community Library Unattended Children Policy

The Ceresco Community Library welcomes children to use its facilities and services. However, responsibility for children using the library rests with the parent/guardian or responsible caregiver, not with library personnel.

It is not the Library's function or purpose to provide supervision or care for children. Parents should be aware that the library is a public building open to all individuals. The following policy has been designed to communicate the Library's concern for the safety and welfare of the children it serves:

The library acknowledges that children mature at different ages. These rules are subject to the discretion of library staff who may apply them to children other than the ages stated below if they deem it necessary.

- Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible caregiver at least 12 years old.
- Children under the age of 8 may be left unattended at scheduled library programs if it is announced in the advertisement of the event that this will be allowed. The responsible person is expected to be at the library when the program concludes.
- Children 8 and older who are left unattended should know how to reach a parent or guardian, and parents should be aware of the closing time of the library. Keep in mind that library hours may change due to weather conditions or other emergencies.

Please help us in providing a fun and safe place for children, while remembering that a library is a busy <u>public</u> facility.

Approved by the Board of Trustees of the Ceresco Community Library, July 26th, 2018