

## **Children & Young Adult Areas Policy Falmouth Public Library - Falmouth, MA**

In addition to the Library Use Policy, this Children & Young Adult Areas Policy illustrates the commitment of the Falmouth Public Library to providing a safe, welcoming, and engaging environment for young people of all ages. Recognizing that the Library is a public building, and therefore can pose concerns for children left alone, Falmouth Public Library has established the following policy for the well-being of all our patrons.

Children aged 8 and over may be unattended in the building while utilizing the library resources, spaces, or programs. However, the child must know how to reach a responsible adult should the need arise. Library staff are not responsible for supervising the activities of children left unattended. In the event of a child left unattended at closing, Library staff may contact Falmouth Police.

A child's caregivers have the primary responsibility to guide and direct the child's use of library materials. Library staff do not stand in for the caregiver in permitting or denying access to any library materials to a library user based on age.

Library users of all ages are welcome to browse and borrow items from the Children's and Young Adult collections. However, the seating, tables, and technology within these rooms are exclusively for the use of children, teens, and their accompanying caregivers.

*Approved by the Board of Library Trustees: November 2025*

*The Falmouth Public Library Board of Trustees reserves the right to alter, amend, or terminate this policy.*