

Young people ages 14 through 17 are treated as adult users. However, they are still legally the responsibility of their parents and should have an emergency contact available.

Closing Time: Children up to age thirteen who are not picked up or do not have transportation home at closing time will be asked for telephone numbers of people who can pick them up at the library. If transportation is not available within 30 minutes of closing, the police will be asked to pick up the child(ren).



Hours of Operation

Tuesday - Thursday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Friday
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
(Closed: 1:15 – 2:30 p.m.)

Sunday & Monday - CLOSED

Telephone: (441) 295-0487

Mailing Address

74 Church Street
Hamilton HM 12

E-mail: youthlib@gov.bm

Website: www.bnl.bm
Facebook: [@youthlibbda](https://www.facebook.com/youthlibbda)
Instagram: [youthlibbda](https://www.instagram.com/youthlibbda)

Bermuda National Library:
Youth Services 2022

Unattended Child Policy



**Bermuda National Library
Youth Services
Government of Bermuda**

The Bermuda National Library, Youth Services Department, is dedicated to providing a warm, welcoming, exciting and safe environment for people of all ages. Sharing this environment with other people requires that all follow certain rules for public behavior on library property as established by the Bermuda National Library.

The Bermuda Youth Library wants children to use its facilities and services. Ideally children in the library should always be accompanied by a parent/ guardian or assigned caregiver.

The safety of children left alone in a library building is a serious concern of the library staff. **The responsibility for the safety and behavior of children in the library rests with the parent/guardian and not the library personnel.** Librarians cannot be responsible for children who are unattended or demonstrating inappropriate behavior. When children are left alone they may become frightened or anxious. If they wander through the building they may encounter hazards such as stairs, doors, furniture or electrical equipment. They may

also become bored and restless and could disturb the enjoyment and work of others.

The following guidelines will be followed concerning the care and behavior of young library users:

Rules of Behavior for the Use of Library

Facilities

- Shoes must be worn at all times
- No food or drink allowed
- No cell phone usage
- No pets allowed
- No running, skylarking or loud talking

Children aged 10 and under must be accompanied by a parent/guardian at all times. An exception would be children 5 years and older attending a story time or other library program without a parent/guardian in the room. However, the parent/guardian must remain in the library and immediately join the child at the end of the program.

If a child in this age group is found unattended, library staff will attempt to locate the parent/ guardian in the library and inform him/her of the rules. If the parent/ caregiver cannot be found, or if the child is found unattended again, the police will be called to come pick up the child.

If a child in this age group violates the rules for public behavior, the child and the parent/ caregiver will be informed of the rules. If inappropriate behavior continues, the family may be asked to leave the library.

Children aged 10 and older may use the library on their own as long as they hold a valid Youth Library card. However, parents are still responsible for the actions of their child(ren). Children using inappropriate behavior may be asked to leave the library. This is of particular concern in inclement weather, after dark or if the library facility has to close unexpectedly due to emergencies or safety issues.

All children should know what to do or have the telephone number of someone who can assist them in an emergency.