



## Parental Responsibility Policy

### PURPOSE

The Cornelius Public Library offers many programs and services that encourage children to develop a love of reading and support students to be successful learners.

For purposes of this policy, the term “Guardian” includes “Parent,” “Guardian,” “Caregiver” and “Babysitter.”

See related policies: [Rules of Behavior](#), [Computer and Technology Use](#) and [Food and Drink](#).

### SUPERVISION

- Guardians of children are responsible for the behavior of their children while in the library.
- Guardians must supervise and be within sight at all times of children ages 10 and younger as per Oregon’s Child Neglect law, ORS 163.545.
- Library staff cannot assume responsibility for children’s safety and comfort when they are unattended.
- If the guardian of unsupervised children cannot be located, library staff will call the police. Library staff are “Mandatory Reporters” and are required by Oregon law to report suspected abuse or neglect of a child.
- Guardians will not allow children to engage in behavior which is unsafe, inappropriate, disturbs others or interferes with library operations. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Running
  - Yelling
  - Climbing on furniture
  - Throwing anything
  - Pulling books off shelves for fun (not to read)
  - Swearing or abusive language
  - Not wearing shoes, bottoms and/or tops
- Library staff have the authority to ask the Guardian and children to leave the premises.



## ACCESS

Guardians of children are responsible for monitoring their children's use of library materials and electronic resources.

- Children ages 0-17 may have their own Youth Access Card which allows them limited borrowing of **juvenile** books or audiobooks and online access to **all** (juvenile and adult) e-books and online resources.
- Children may, alternatively, have their own or share a General Card with family which gives them access to **all** material (juvenile and adult) in this and other WCCLS libraries (except some electronic equipment). This includes access to all print material, all movies, all music, and all video games.
- Children 12 and under using Cornelius Library computers will automatically have child filtered Internet access on a limited number of public stations. Teens (13-17) will have adult filtered access and may use any public station.
- Library staff are not responsible for determining whether materials used by children and teens are "age appropriate."

## FINES

Parents and legal guardians of youth under the age of 18 are financially responsible for any library fines or fees that may accrue on children's accounts.

- Juvenile materials do not have overdue fines, but replacement fees are billed for items that are not returned or returned damaged.
- Most Adult and Young Adult materials have a fine of 25 cents for each day the item is overdue, up to a maximum of \$5.00.
- Special items may have different fines applied. Ask your library if you have a question about a special item.
- Any materials and equipment that are lost, damaged, or unreturned will be billed.

Approved by the Library Advisory Board 10/3/19; by City Council 11/04/19 .