

## **1.9 Vulnerable Person Policy**

**Parents, guardians and caregivers should remember that the Library is a public building open to all, and that unattended vulnerable individuals are potentially at risk. This policy has been designed to communicate the concern of the Trustees and staff for the safety and welfare of all patrons who use the Georgia Public Library.**

**All children 8 years or under, and any person who is vulnerable, must have a qualified adult in attendance with them for their enjoyment and safety.**

**Parents or legal guardians are always responsible for the well-being, safety and conduct of their charges. This includes:**

- Accessing Library Items: The Library is not responsible for enforcing the restrictions a parent/guardian deems appropriate in terms of the materials the child may access.**
- Supervision: The Library staff is not responsible for supervising or caring for children while their parents, guardians, or caregivers are outside the Library or in another part of the building. The staff does not monitor children leaving the building, nor is it their responsibility to know if a child is leaving with a parent, guardian, relative, friend, or stranger.**
- Transportation: Parents, guardians, and caregivers are expected to be aware of the opening and closing times of the Library, and to make suitable arrangements to meet or transport their children. If the Library is closing and a child has been left unattended, the staff may assist the child in calling home to arrange for transportation. However, if the child is not picked up within fifteen (15) minutes after closing, the police will be called to take responsibility. The Library staff is not permitted to take a child out of the building or to transport them to another location.**

**All patrons are expected to adhere to the same standards of conduct. All library users are required to respect library property and to act in a manner appropriate to the use and function of the Library (see [Patron Code of Conduct](#)).**

**Any patron who is not using the Library appropriately, who is engaged in disruptive or other inappropriate behavior, or who requires excessive staff attention, will be asked to leave the Library after proper warning.**