

# **CONTRA COSTA COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

## **Children and Teen Areas - Policy**

### **Statement of Policy**

The Contra Costa County Public Library strives to create a welcoming, educational and safe environment for our youth. The safety and welfare of every child is of the utmost importance.

Library staff are available to be a resource for children, but cannot assume responsibility for a child in the absence of a parent or guardian. (See the library's Children – Unattended Policy.)

### **Need for the Policy**

The Contra Costa County Public Library is concerned about the safety of all its patrons and especially the safety of its youngest patrons. This policy is intended to ensure that the library's children's and teen areas are welcome, safe places for the children and teens that use them.

### **Requirements and Guidelines**

Children's areas are reserved for use by children age 11 and under, their parents or guardians, and patrons using the children's collections at the discretion of library staff.

Teen areas are reserved for use by patrons age 12 – 18, those who accompany them and patrons using the teen collection at the discretion of library staff.

Unaccompanied adults may be asked by library staff to use the facilities, services, and equipment in the adult section of the library.

Children, teens and adults in the children's and teen areas must adhere to the conduct requirements set forth in the library's Patron Conduct Policy.