

Children in the Library

WELCOME! Library programs and services encourage a love of books, reading and learning. We are happy to have you here, and we want you to know about the following Library policies:

Supervision: Children 10 and under must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Children should know how to reach a responsible adult should a need arise. Library staff are not responsible for a child's supervision.

Please be aware of closing times of the Library and should arrange pick-up times accordingly. The Library's staff is not responsible for children who are not picked up by closing time. While every effort will be made to contact the parents/guardians by phone, Library staff will neither drive unattended children home nor supervise them until a parent arrives.

Caregivers are liable for any damage done by their children to the facility.

Use of Computers: Yarmouth Town Libraries provide computers for public use.

Library Cards: Children of any age, with approval from a responsible adult, are eligible for a CLAMS library card. The CLAMS card entitles the borrower to borrow up to 50 items, including up to 10 DVDs per card. Fines on children's cards accrue at the same rate as adult cards: \$0.10 per day per book and \$1.00 per DVD per day. Caregivers of children 13 or younger are responsible for the fines or fees on youth cards. Caregivers will not have access to their child's account without the child's permission.

Borrowing Privileges: We have adopted the American Library Association (ALA) Library Bill of Rights (attached). In this document it states "A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views." Library staff does not restrict the books, videos or other materials that children choose to borrow. Children have access to all materials in the Library. The Yarmouth Town Library encourages parents and caregivers to visit the Library with their children to guide them in their selections.

Approved by the Yarmouth Town Library Board
February 13, 2020

Library Bill of Rights

The American Library Association affirms that all libraries are forums for information and ideas, and that the following basic policies should guide their services.

I. Books and other library resources should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people of the community the library serves. Materials should not be excluded because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to their creation.

II. Libraries should provide materials and information presenting all points of view on current and historical issues. Materials should not be proscribed or removed because of partisan or doctrinal disapproval.

III. Libraries should challenge censorship in the fulfillment of their responsibility to provide information and enlightenment.

IV. Libraries should cooperate with all persons and groups concerned with resisting abridgment of free expression and free access to ideas.

V. A person's right to use a library should not be denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.

VI. Libraries which make exhibit spaces and meeting rooms available to the public they serve should make such facilities available on an equitable basis, regardless of the beliefs or affiliations of individuals or groups requesting their use.

Adopted June 18, 1948, by the ALA Council; amended February 2, 1961; amended June 28, 1967; amended January 23, 1980; inclusion of "age" reaffirmed January 24, 1996.