Child Safe Policy

The Newport News Public Library is dedicated to providing a safe and welcoming environment for families and children. To make the library an enjoyable place and to encourage a love of books, reading, and learning, we offer designated children’s areas, programs, and services for youth.

Access to Children’s Areas
The Youth Services and Teen areas of the library are designed specifically for use by those young patrons and their parents, guardians, or caregivers. Adults not accompanying youth are welcome to search or browse the youth collections. However, the seating is intended for the above-described groups and unaccompanied adults will be asked to take advantage of seating elsewhere in the library.

Adults Attending Youth Programs
All programs are free and open to the public. While some programs are open to all ages, others are appropriate for specific ages. Audience size and age limits are set due to a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, program content, developmental needs, maturity level, mode of presentation, performer stipulation, safety or room capacity. To provide an optimal experience for attendees, events may require pre-registration. Some programs invite parent/child or caregiver/child attendance, while others are designed for the child’s independent/on my own experience. Parents and or caregivers attending children’s programs should act as observers and not active participants. Adults not accompanied by a child or teen are not allowed in youth programs.

Enforcement of the Child Safe Policy
The Child Safe Policy will be enforced in a fair and reasonable manner.