

Policy Title: Children's Services

Intent

1. To foster the intellectual growth, cultural appreciation, and recreational activities of the children in the community
2. To provide for the children of all ages, library services which will assist in developing the full potential of each child.
3. To nurture the love for literature and lifelong learning
4. To promote literacy and a lasting connection to the library
5. To provide a pleasant and inviting atmosphere for children

Regulations

Ensure that:

1. an area specifically designated for children, including a children's programming space, removed from the daily service area, is assigned in each branch
2. furniture, shelves, and equipment are designed for and accessible to children
3. signage is clear and legible for children
4. library procedures support this policy
5. adequate funds and staff are made available to support children's programming and services
6. collections are current, in good condition and generally attractive, and are organized for easy access and with children's capabilities in mind
7. trained staff with empathetic rapport with children are available at all locations
8. collections, including digital collections, are evaluated on an ongoing basis
9. a coordinator is employed as a specialist having input into management decisions
10. all children's services staff are considered eligible to serve on committees and attend workshops, courses and conferences related to the library field.
11. an active program of ongoing staff training and professional development in children's service is identified and pursued for children's services staff.
12. advancement is not restricted for children's services staff.
13. children's services staff are involved in planning, decision making, organizing, and budgeting to offer a service which fulfills community needs.

Children's Services staff will:

1. Communicate and cooperate with other community groups and organizations devoted to serving children
2. Actively encourage the cooperation of schools and other groups in the use of the library
3. Learn and promote the collection
4. Pursue appropriate staff development to continue to grow in knowledge and skills
5. Provide:
6. expertise and support for community groups and organizations serving children;
7. library service for children with the respect and consideration assured to all patrons;
8. programs for children and adults, both inside and outside the library, to stimulate the child's imagination and love of reading

POLICY HISTORY:	
Initial Draft	November 22, 2006
Draft Presentation Review	April 16, 2007
Board Presentation:	April 19, 2007
Board Adoption:	April 19, 2007