

Library Policy Changes Summary

Lending Policy Changes:

Added: All minors under the age of 18 must have a permission form on file, completed by a parent or legal guardian, to receive a library card.

Added: Minors under the age of 18 must have a permission form on file, completed by a parent or legal guardian, to check out materials from the library. They may only check out materials from the collections specified on their permission form. Additionally, children aged 11 and under must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or responsible caregiver to check out materials.

Unattended Children Policy:

Added: Minors under the age of 18 must have a permission form on file, completed by a parent or legal guardian, to check out materials from the library. They may only check out materials from the collections specified on their permission form. Additionally, children aged 11 and under must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or responsible caregiver to check out materials.

Collection Development Policy:

Added: Intra-library loans within Baldwin County are used to enhance service for Foley Public Library patrons. However, Foley Public Library holds no liability for materials borrowed from other libraries in the county.

Added:

CHILDREN AND YOUTH COLLECTIONS

Local & State Standards

Added: The Foley Public Library will consider community standards and state guidelines when selecting materials for its Children and Youth Departments.

- *The library has further stratified its collections for better browsability and age appropriate content. This can be seen in the divided Teen (13-18), Juvenile Tween (10-13), Juvenile Middle Grade (8-12), and Juvenile Chapter Book (6-10) collections.*
- *Library sections designated for minors under the age of 18 remain free of material containing obscenity, sexually explicit, or other material deemed inappropriate for children or youth. Age-appropriate materials regarding religion, history, biology, or human anatomy should not be construed to be against this rule. Staff will work to identify problem materials and make sure they are in age appropriate collections. This is an ongoing process that we will continue going forward.*
- *Collection development for these sections should not include any material advertised for consumers under the age of 18 which contain obscenity, sexually explicit, or other material deemed inappropriate for children or youth. Age-appropriate materials regarding*

religion, history, biology, or human anatomy should not be construed to be against this rule.

- *Library cards for minors under the age of 18 require parental approval through a Minor Library Card Permission Form, allowing the parent or legal guardian to choose the level of access for their child. The available card levels are as follows:*
 - *Foley Children's Card: (suggested for ages birth to 10 years)*
 - *The child can access materials from these collections with parental permission:*
 - *Toddler (0-3 yrs)*
 - *Easy Picture Books (4-8 yrs)*
 - *Easy Readers (5-9 yrs)*
 - *Juvenile Chapter Books (6-10 yrs)*
 - *Foley Tween Card: (suggested for ages 10 to 13 years)*
 - *The child can access materials from these collections with parental permission:*
 - *Toddler (0-3 yrs)*
 - *Easy Picture Books (4-8 yrs)*
 - *Easy Readers (5-9 yrs)*
 - *Juvenile Chapter Books (6-10 yrs)*
 - *Juvenile Middle Grade (8-12 yrs)*
 - *Juvenile Tween (10-14 yrs)*
 - *Foley Teen Card: (suggested for ages 13 to 18 years)*
 - *The child can access materials from these collections with parental permission:*
 - *Toddler (0-3 yrs)*
 - *Easy Picture Books (4-8 yrs)*
 - *Easy Readers (5-9 yrs)*
 - *Juvenile Chapter Books (6-10 yrs)*
 - *Juvenile Middle Grade (8-12 yrs)*
 - *Juvenile Tween (10-14 yrs)*
 - *Teen (13-18 yrs)*
 - *Foley Adult (unrestricted) Card: (any ages)*
 - *Can access material from all circulating collections in the library with parental permission.*

Borrower Registrations and Borrowing Privileges:

Minors under the age of 18 must have a permission form on file, completed by a parent or legal guardian, to receive a library card and check out materials. They may only borrow materials from the collections specified on their permission form. Additionally, children aged 11 and under must be accompanied by a parent, legal guardian, or responsible caregiver to check out materials. Parents or guardians are responsible for any damaged, lost, or overdue materials checked out on their child's card.

Policy on Monitoring Minor's Borrowing:

At Foley Public Library, parents and guardians, not library staff or trustees, are responsible for monitoring and approving the selection of materials made by minor children. Parents can choose the level of access for their children by selecting a specific card type, which limits the child to materials curated for their age range.

Despite the library staff's best efforts to curate appropriate collections, materials that are acceptable to some may be considered offensive by others. Every household and individual has different views on what is appropriate. Only parents or guardians have the authority to restrict their children—and only their children—from borrowing specific materials within the chosen access level. Parents or guardians who do not want their children to have access to certain materials should accompany or advise their children accordingly. Library staff and trustees do not act in loco parentis.

Finally, we added an item for clean-up purposes under Collections Development: *Once a title has been challenged and processed by the Reconsideration Review Committee, it cannot be challenged again for five years.*