DELTA STATE UNIVERSITY

A guide to Library Services

Library Services Policy Regarding the Presence of Children in Roberts-LaForge Library and Instructional Resources Center

Library Services administrators, faculty and staff welcome patrons of all ages. In order to ensure that an atmosphere conducive to research and learning is maintained for all users, the following policy provides guidelines to children and their parents who desire to use the resources of Roberts-LaForge Library and the Instructional Resources Center.

AGE LIMITS

- Children under seventeen (17) years of age who come into the Library or the Instructional Resources Center must be accompanied by an adult.
- Library users that meet the age requirement must be able to verify their age with a valid driver's license or state identification card.
- High school age groups of three or more must be accompanied by an adult.
- Adults should bring no more than three children to the library without making prior arrangements.

REFERENCE ASSISTANCE

Reference Librarians can provide overall instructions and general assistance in locating resources as their time permits. It is the responsibility of the adult to stay with the child in order to complete the research. Our limited staffing is insufficient to provide the one-on-one assistance that is usually necessary with young children.

ACCEPTABLE USE OF COMPUTERS

The Library has computers on the first floor in the Reference area and in the Instructional Resources Center (IRC) and on the second floor that are available for community use.

- Children under 17 cannot gain computer access without an adult. The adult must register for computer access at the Reference or Serials Desk by presenting a valid driver's license or state issued photo identification card. No other forms of ID will be accepted.
- Games and chat are strongly discouraged.
- Accessing inappropriate web sites is prohibited on all computers on campus.

Failure to follow these policies may result in loss of computer privileges. Copies of the "Computer Use Policy" are available in each department.

NOTE: Library computers are not equipped with Internet "filters" which protect children from accessing inappropriate sites. The monitoring of computer use must be the responsibility of the parent or accompanying adult. The Library staff is not responsible for the supervision of children who use library computers.

ADULTS WHO BRING THEIR CHILDREN TO THE LIBRARY

Parents who are doing research are discouraged from bringing children with them into the building. If a parent brings a child, he/she must supervise the child at all times. Children will not be allowed to play on the stairs, in the elevators or in any area in which the child has potential to be injured.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR

Any behavior that disturbs other patrons is prohibited. A Library Services staff member will ask the adult and child to leave the building if unacceptable behavior persists.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional information regarding this policy, please contact Jeff Slagell, Dean of Library Services, or Joi Phillips, Assistant Director at 662-846-4440.   **7/19/13 JP**