KEEPING KIDS SAFE IN THE LIBRARY

East Lake Community Library welcomes the use of its facilities and services by children of all ages. The library offers many services and programs for children to encourage them to visit often and develop a love of books, reading and libraries.

The library is concerned about the safety of all users, especially children. Unlike schools, the library is a public building with many visitors every year. Anyone can enter and exit without supervision by library staff. Patrons should be as careful of their children's safety in the library as they would be in a shopping mall or any other public building. "Stranger Danger" is a real possibility in any public place.

For the protection and well-being of children who enjoy our resources, programs and facilities, the library has adopted the following policy:

Children under the age of ten (10) must be accompanied by a parent or responsible caregiver (at least 16 years of age) at all times.

PARENT/CAREGIVER GUIDELINES

- Children, like all library users, are expected to behave appropriately. Parents and caregivers are responsible for their children's behavior while in the library.

- Children under the age of ten (10) should be in direct supervision of a parent or caregiver at all times.

- Parents or caregivers must remain in the building while their children are attending programs.

- The library staff has many duties to attend to in serving the public. The library cannot assume responsibility for children left in the library throughout the day or at closing.

- Parents of children ten (10) years and older who are using the library on their own should plan to pick up their children at least 10 minutes before closing.

- Disruptive children may be asked to leave at the librarian's discretion. Parents are responsible for the behavior of their children; guardians and caregivers are responsible for the behavior of the children in their care. The library is not responsible for the safety or security of children left unattended.

- By using the East Lake Community Library each patron, including the parents and guardians of a minor (hereinafter referred to as "the patron"), agree to indemnify and hold harmless the library, its employees, agents, or any other person *(hereinafter jointly referred to as "the indemnitee") against damages, loss, or expense by reason of any claim asserted against the indemnitee or liability imposed upon the indemnitee for (1) bodily injury or death sustained by any person or persons arising from the patron's use of the library; or (2) damage to or loss of property arising from the patron's use of the library. The patron shall indemnify and hold harmless the Indemnitee whether such death, injury, damage, or loss is due or claimed to be due as a result of any active or passive negligence of the indemnitee. Further, the patron shall, at the sole option of the indemnitee, defend the indemnitee with appropriate counsel approved by the indemnitee, and shall further bear all costs and expenses, including attorneys' fees through any trial and appeal, in the defense of any claim against the indemnitee arising from the patron's use of the library.*

EAST LAKE COMMUNITY LIBRARY