

# Welcome to the Scarborough Public Library

## Information for Parents and Guardians Regarding After School Use of the Scarborough Public Library

The Scarborough Public Library welcomes students after school who are attending one of our many youth programs, looking for a quiet place to do homework, or using library services. Last year we had an average of 80 students daily and on some days, it was up to 140. To make the library a positive and safe experience for all, we want to ensure that parents are aware of our service limitations and policies. We offer the following reminders and encourage you to share this information with your child:

- **Service Limitations:** The library is a public facility and should not be used as an alternative to after-school care. We have an open-door policy; we do not have the capacity to track attendance or monitor who enters or exits the building. **All visitors must have parental trust in their independence to come and go at will.** The responsibility for the safety of children visiting the library rests with the parent/guardian or assigned chaperone. **Please note that minors under the age of 11 must be accompanied by a responsible caregiver aged 16 or older.**
- **Transportation:** All visitors must independently arrange their transportation to their next destination and be mindful of library closing times. Students must be picked up prior to the close of business as they may not remain in the building and there is no protected or supervised area outside to wait on cold, snowy, or rainy days.
- **Behavior Policy:** **Our behavior policy will be strictly enforced.** Disruptive/inappropriate behavior will result in removal from the library and its grounds regardless of age. Parents should ensure their children understand this policy. This reinforces the need that visitors of all ages have the ability to independently arrange transportation.
- **Computer Use:** The library is not responsible for monitoring what a student accesses on the library or personal computers or mobile devices.
- **Age Group:** The library serves a wide age range and cannot separate social groups due to space and staffing limitations.
- **Personal belongings:** All personal belongings must be left in our designated area or remain with the owner. The middle school does have safe options for gear for those participating in after-school activities. **Due to limited space, our restrooms may not be used to change for school activities.**

The library is committed to working closely with school administrators, community partners and you to create a safe, nurturing environment for students. It is a challenge to balance the needs of all community members and age groups, and we need your help to make this a safe and meaningful space for your child and the rest of the community. Thank you for your support and cooperation in making this possible. If you have any questions or comments, please contact:

Deanna McNamara, Youth Services Manager, at 207-396-6278  
Chip Schrader, Library Director, at 207-396-6266



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