

#### **PCPL 4.1 Supervised Visitation Policy**

The Pulaski County Public Library recognizes its role in the community as a safe meeting place. As such, the Library offers spaces designated for public use and small gatherings.

Given that the county's Department of Children's Services caseworkers and other service providers use Library facilities regularly for supervised family visitations, counseling, and other meetings, the Library welcomes this opportunity to serve its community in this manner.

These visits require privacy and allowances for children to play, interact, and eat with family members. Those activities make it imperative that these meetings are held in designated meeting spaces. With this in mind, the Library Board has identified the Activity Room as the space best suited for supervised visits because it is a private, structured environment.

The library staff may provide age-appropriate items such as Legos, board games, crayons, and coloring papers during supervised visitation. While parents and children are welcome to use public areas outside of visitation times, supervised visitation should occur in the Activity Room.

Caseworkers and service providers will be responsible for reserving the Activity Room in advance and considered the contact point for each visit. The room is available for use by one family at a time and is limited to no more than three (3) hours each day. When arriving at the library, caseworkers are asked to leave a business card or ID card so that staff may identify them as the supervising individual if needed during the visit.

Visitations must follow the same guidelines as the Library's Meeting Room Policy. Not all Library areas are suited for providing this unique service, and the caseworker is responsible for reserving a location in advance.

Foul and abusive language or threatening behavior towards children, staff, fellow patrons, or elsewhere in the library will not be tolerated. Individuals will be asked to leave the premises immediately if this occurs or if an individual seems to be under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs. The Library is a drug, tobacco, weapon, and alcohol-free environment. Damage or destruction of property is not tolerated.

The Library Director, or their designee, reserves the right to terminate any noisy, disruptive, or potentially destructive meeting on the Library's property. In case of a room reservation denial, an appeal may be made, in writing, to the Library Board of Trustees.