

Wanaque Public Library Children's Department Policy

Adopted by Wanaque Public Library Board of Trustees 9/27/2022

The Wanaque Public Library Children's Department is a welcoming and accommodating space for children of all ages, parents, caregivers and teachers. We encourage children and their families to visit frequently and take advantage of what we offer. Everyone is welcome to browse the collection or look for a book, but seating and computer usage in the Children's Room is limited to children and their accompanying adults only.

Children's Department Etiquette

Everyone who visits the children's department is expected to behave appropriately, with respect for other library patrons, property, and library staff. Library staff cannot provide child care or assume responsibility for children's behavior or safety, so caregivers are expected to monitor their children's behavior and ensure they are not being disruptive or destructive. Repeated disruptive behavior may result in removal from the library.

Registration for Programs

Each month we offer numerous storytimes, activities and events to entertain and educate children and families. Almost all events held in the children's room (except our drop-in crafts or take and make projects) require pre-registration. We require pre-registration for several reasons:

1. We have a small children's room, and we must adhere to Fire Department occupancy guidelines. Sometimes this requires us to limit the amount of people in the room.
2. If a program includes a craft or snack, we need to know how many children will attend so we can have enough supplies for everyone. Additionally, please tell us if your child has allergies when you register for an event.
3. Since Wanaque Public Library is funded directly by the taxpayers of Wanaque, we must give first priority to children whose families live in Wanaque Borough.

To register for events, parents may call 973-839-4434 or email the library at wanaquelibrary@gmail.com. We will ask you for your name and contact information, the town where you live, and your child's name and age.

In order to accommodate caregiver schedules, we may offer more than one session of the same storytime each week. When you register your child, we will ask you to tell us which day you plan to attend, and you and your child will attend on that same day each week during the entire six-week storytime session.

We do our best to accommodate everyone, but we cannot guarantee admission. If you don't live in town, we may add you to a waiting list and we will contact you if a spot opens up.

Registration Cancellation Guidelines

If you or your child is feverish, contagious, or showing symptoms of illness, please don't come to the program. Instead, call 973-839-4434 to let us know you will not be attending, and we will see you next time.

If you discover you cannot attend a program for which you already registered, please call 973-839-4434 to let us know you can't come. That way, we can offer your spot to someone else.

Storytime and Program Etiquette

Caregivers and siblings are also encouraged to participate during programs. The more the merrier!

Caregivers are asked to not leave the library while their child is attending an activity.