



## HOW EXCITING...YOUR OWN LIBRARY CARD!

We want your children to feel at home in the library and welcomed at all times. Often, a library card of their own gives them a sense of pride and of "feeling grownup", which is very exciting. We are happy to give them this opportunity to access a whole new world of reading and fun.

### Children can get their Library card:

- If they are in Kindergarten with parental consent.
- If the parent agrees to take full responsibility for all fines, damage fees, and has their own library card themselves.

### Resources for Finding Appropriate Materials for Your Child

- [imbd.com](http://imbd.com)
- [commonsensemedia.org](http://commonsensemedia.org)
- [ala.org/advocacy/privacy/toolkit](http://ala.org/advocacy/privacy/toolkit)

#### \*Expressed Consent Defined:

Expressed consent means that a child has given full consent of their own volition and with full understanding of what consent means.

### Barrington Public Library

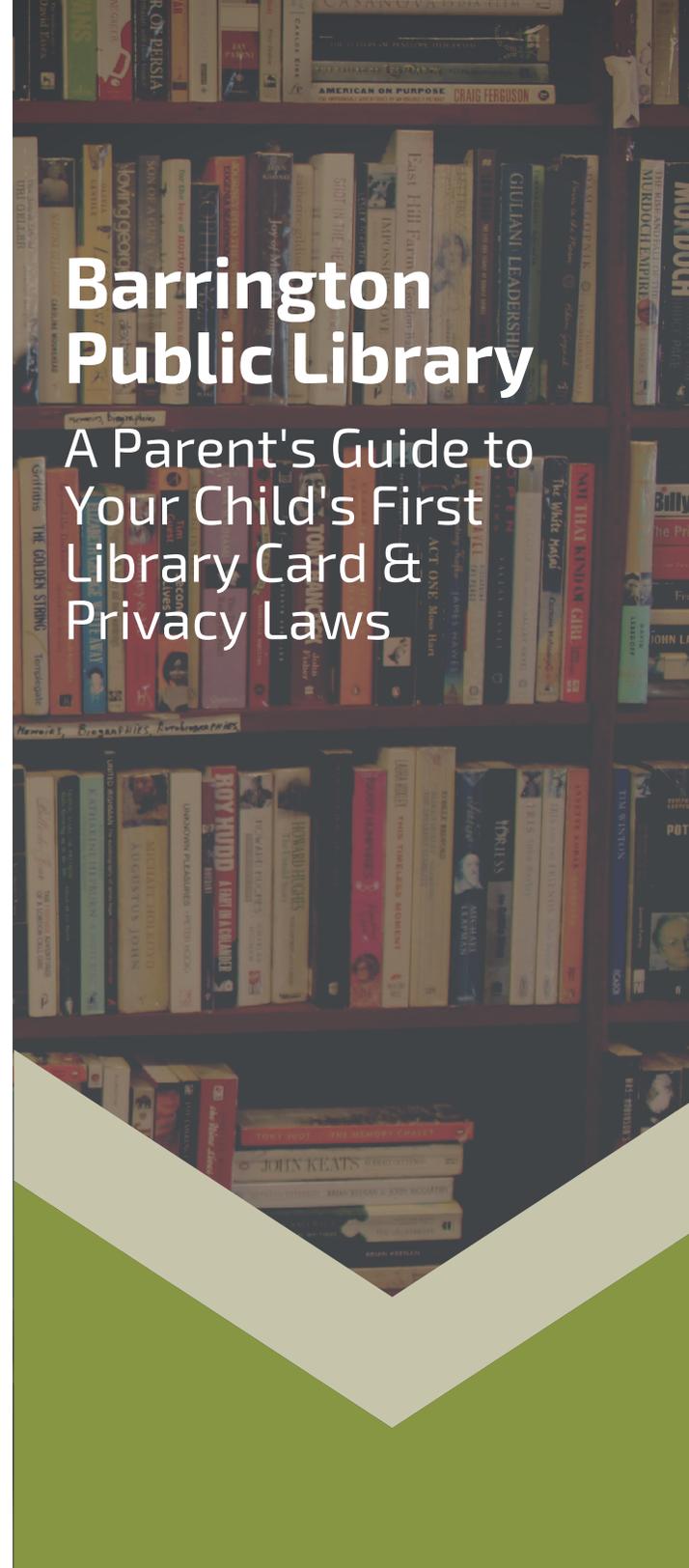
where community connects

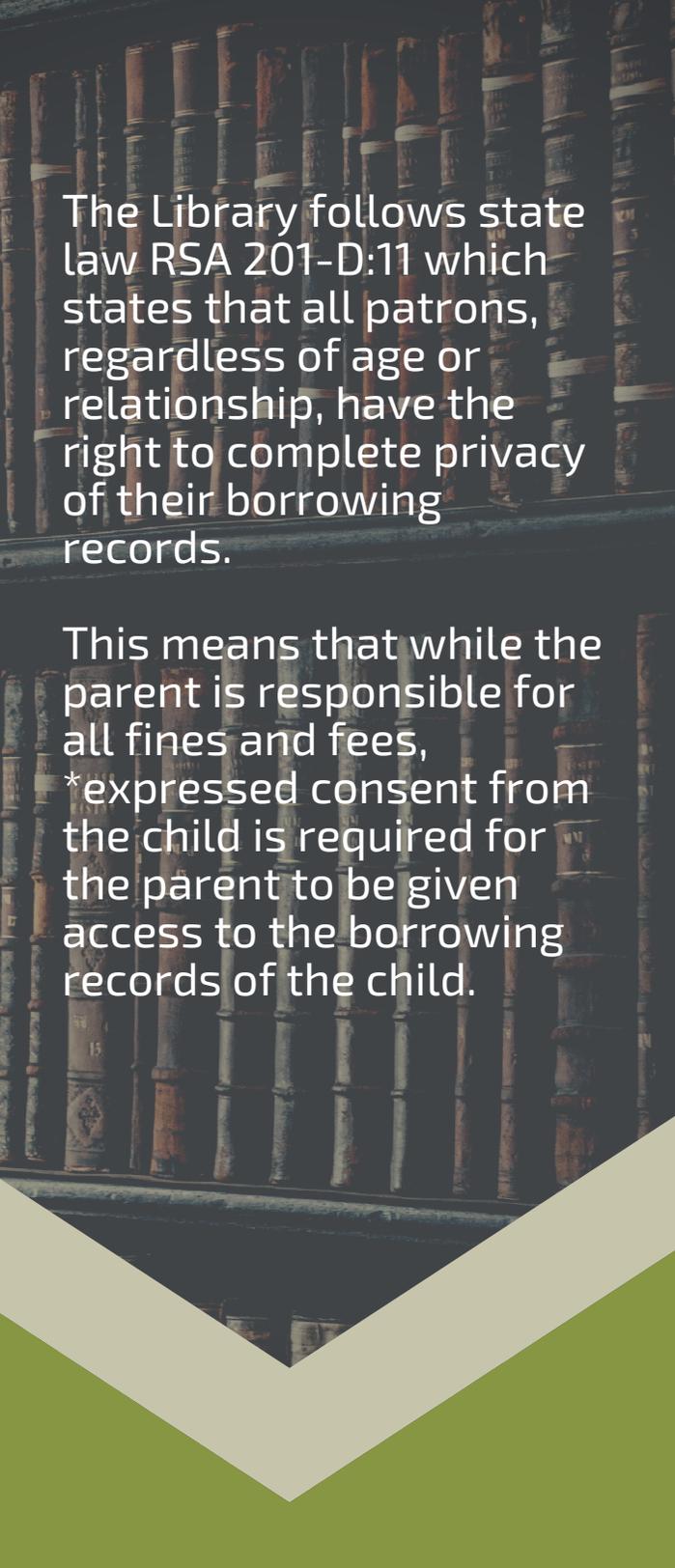
### Contact Us

105 Ramsdell RD Barrington, NH  
[www.barringtonlibrary.com](http://www.barringtonlibrary.com)  
603-664-9715

# Barrington Public Library

## A Parent's Guide to Your Child's First Library Card & Privacy Laws





The Library follows state law RSA 201-D:11 which states that all patrons, regardless of age or relationship, have the right to complete privacy of their borrowing records.

This means that while the parent is responsible for all fines and fees, \*expressed consent from the child is required for the parent to be given access to the borrowing records of the child.

## What exactly does this law mean to you and your child?

To break down the RSA 201-D:11 law further, this means that without \*expressed consent of the child, no one else can be told what items are checked out under their card. Children will have access to all items within the library. The staff will not release records to anyone regardless of their relationship to the cardholder without the cardholder's \*expressed consent, nor will we deny access to any part of our library collection based upon age. It is up to the parent to monitor their child's check outs. As the library is a public government facility, these are legal requirements staff must follow due to first amendment rights and cannot be abridged for anyone, including children.

## Why is this law in place?

This law is in place to secure the privacy of ALL patrons, regardless of age, to protect the right to explore topics of their own choosing without fear.

## How can parents work with the Library under this law?

We understand that parents may be concerned about privacy being given to their child at this level, especially with parents still being responsible for fines and fees. Here are some ways we can work together and options you have available to you:

- Your child may give \*expressed consent to tell you the titles of all items on their account. Although they do have the right to rescind this permission at any time.
- Your child may log into the catalog online and see their titles from there.
- You can choose to not give them a card at this time and allow them to continue using your account. We can also add a note to your card that they have permission to use your card even if they come without you.
- You can rescind the rights for your child to have a library card at anytime as well.