



# WESTCHESTER PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Unacceptable Behavior Policy

Unacceptable behavior includes behavior within the Library or on Library premises that interferes with the use of the Library by other patrons, creates a threat or risk of violence or harm or injury to other patrons or Library personnel, interferes with the work of Library personnel, or creates a risk of damage to Library property.

The Library reserves the right to require anyone who engages in unacceptable behavior to leave the premises, the right to restrict privileges for a specified period of time, and the right to ban the individual from the library for a specified period of time or permanently. Unlawful activities will be immediately reported to the police.

Unacceptable behavior on Library premises includes, but is not limited to:

- Use or display of profanity, violence, abusive or threatening language or gestures
- Smoking, vaping, use of e-cigarettes or any Electronic Nicotine Delivery System, or use of other nicotine or tobacco products; use of all such products is prohibited within 15' of Library entrances.
- Unreasonable noise levels including shouting, loud talking, fighting, or disruptive conversation
- Playing music or other media at levels that are disruptive to patrons or Library personnel
- Damaging, defacing, or theft of any Library property or materials, or of the personal property of other patrons
- Food except that which is served during an approved event (covered drinks are allowed as long as the cover remains in place while inside the Library)
- Failure to evacuate in an emergency or during a drill
- Non-emergency activation of alarms
- Running, throwing objects, horseplay, and other boisterous behavior
- Leaving personal items unattended; such items may be discarded at the discretion of Library personnel to preserve a safe environment
- Solicitation, gambling, panhandling, or campaigning
- Loitering
- Sleeping
- Using restrooms for bathing, or for laundering clothes
- Use of, possession of, or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Skating, skateboarding, bicycling, using a hover board, or any other recreational vehicle

- Bringing animals into the Library except those that are service animals, or those that are authorized as part of a Library-sponsored program. Service animals may not be left unattended and must remain in the care of their handlers at all times.
- Tying or otherwise tethering animals to any area on Library premises (animals may not be left unattended on Library premises at any time; all animals outside the Library must be accompanied by a rightful owner at all times)
- Failure to wear appropriate attire including shirt and shoes
- Sexual harassment or any other type of harassment, including following other patrons, staring unnecessarily, or intimidation
- Viewing sexually explicit images on Library or personal computers or electronic devices
- Sexual misconduct, public lewdness, excessive displays of affection, or publicly inappropriate physical contact
- Being in an unauthorized or personnel-only area
- Leaving children unsupervised
- Personal hygiene, to include bodily odor or perfumes, that constitutes a disturbance to other patrons or that interferes with the work of Library personnel

Behavior expectations on Library premises as pertains to firearms:

- The Library shall follow current Indiana Code regarding licensing and carrying of firearms by the public;
- the Library supports Indiana Code and Indiana laws indicating that pointing a firearm is illegal;
- and pursuant to IC 35-47-11.1-4(6) the Library prohibits the intentional display of firearms during public meetings.