DEPTFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY
ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS

ORIGINAL DATE: 6/14/2023
REVISED DATE:
RESOLUTION #: R061423-1502

SUBJECT: RULES OF CONDUCT

The Deptford Free Public Library is committed to preserving a safe and welcoming environment for reading, learning, exploring ideas, creating, participating in programs, and enjoying other Library activities.

Rules of Conduct

1. For the comfort and safety of patrons, volunteers, staff and the protection of Library property, the following actions are examples of conduct not permitted on library property:

    - The Library reserves the right to terminate an Internet session that disrupts Library services or that involves user behavior that violates the Library's policies; see Internet Use Policy.
    - Disruptive behavior will not be tolerated in the library. This includes, but is not limited to, creating loud noises, loud talking, screaming or banging on computer keyboards, running, throwing items, loitering, exhibiting lewd or inappropriate behavior.
    - Interfering with another person's right to use the library or with library staff's performance of duties.
    - Threatening, harassing, or intimidating behavior, including but not limited to violence, threats of violence, possession of weapons and indecent or obscene conduct towards staff or patrons.
    - Photography and/or other types of recording of individuals or groups without consent is prohibited.
    - Entering without a shirt or shoes or removing these items while in the library.
    - Being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances. Possession or use of alcohol.
    - Selling, using, or possessing controlled substances.
    - Smoking, chewing, vaping or the use of any tobacco product on library property.
    - Eating is not allowed in the library, except as part of a library sponsored program. Drinks are allowed as long as they are in a closed container with a sealed lid, and as long as they are not in the computer lab or near the library computers.
    - **Lying down in the Library; having feet on furniture; or blocking aisles, exits or entrances.**
    - Disturbing others while using electronic devices. Please use headphones & not public speakers.
    - Bringing animals into the library except those needed to assist a person with a disability or animals that are part of a library sponsored program.
    - Using restrooms for bathing, doing laundry, or changing clothes.
    - Soliciting of any kind – including petitioning, canvassing, conducting surveys, and distributing written materials for political, charitable, commercial or religious purposes – is not permitted within the library, within 10 feet of all entrances, or in any way that interferes with the ability of library customers to enter and exit the premises. Exceptions may be made by the Library Director when such activity is to be undertaken for purposes of the benefit of the library.
    - Selling or engaging in other commercial activities are prohibited in the library.
    - Entering areas posted "Staff Only" without permission.
    - Leaving a child under the age of 12 unattended in the library.

Patrons engaged in any of the above behaviors will be warned once. If the behavior is repeated on the same day, the patron will be asked to leave. Failure to comply will result in a call to the police to escort the patron off library premises. Repeated and/or serious offenses may result in revocation of library privileges including being banned from the library.

2. Failure to return library material, pay replacement costs or willfully failing to return out-of-print or valuable items will result in termination of library privileges and may result in prosecution.

3. Damaging or defacing library materials or property, theft of library materials, use of false identification to obtain a library card, or use of another person's library card may result in prosecution.

4. Parents and guardians are responsible for the behavior and supervision of their young children. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by an adult. If the young child is attending a library program, the responsible adult must remain in the immediate vicinity where the program is being conducted.

5. The library may restrict adult use of the children's area in order to ensure the adequate protection of library facilities and of person and property therein.

6. Using wheeled devices inside the library such as bicycles, roller skates, roller blades, skateboards, carts, motorized or non-motorized scooters is not permitted. These restrictions do not apply to ADA assistive devices or baby strollers. Wheeled devices are not to be left in the lobby area or walkways.

7. Patrons must keep belongs with them at all times. The library will not be held liable for any lost, stolen, or unattended items or personal property.

8. As per New Jersey law, library staff have the right to inspect all book bags, briefcases, handbags, and packages of person who enter the library.

9. The violation of any federal or state statutes or local ordinances will also be regarded as a violation of the Library's Rules of Conduct Policy**.** Library staff are authorized to enforce the Rules of Conduct Policy so that the facility can be used to the fullest by all persons.