

Appropriate Patron Behavior Policy

The Brookline Public Library is a tax-supported town agency which is available to all, regardless of age, residence, race, gender identity or gender expression, sexual orientation, education, socioeconomic status or religion. The Brookline Public Library's governing authority, the Board of Trustees, has established the following set of guidelines in order to: protect all library users' right of access to library facilities; ensure the safety of users and staff; and protect library resources and facilities from damage.

The following code of behavior, governing the use of the Brookline Public Library by the public, shall be enforced in order to provide a standard of acceptable behavior.

1. Respect for the rights of other Library users and Library staff shall be maintained at all times. Posted quiet and silent zones must be observed.
2. Shouting, running, pushing or other disruptive behavior is not allowed in the Library.
3. Bicycles, inline skates, skateboards, scooters or similar recreational equipment may not be used in the library building or parking areas. Bicycles should be left in the racks outside of the building.
4. Library users are expected to cooperate with staff when closing time is announced. Notice is given to Library users approximately 15 minutes before closing to provide enough time to gather belongings and check out materials.
5. Appropriate attire must be worn in the Library at all times (e.g. shirt, pants and shoes)
6. Library bathrooms may not be used for bathing or shampooing, shaving, doing laundry, or changing clothes.
7. Patrons whose bodily hygiene is offensive so as to constitute a nuisance to other persons shall be required to leave the building.
8. Smoking (including e-cigarettes), vaping, or the use of smokeless tobacco is not allowed in the Library and we request patrons refrain from smoking at the entrances to our libraries.
9. Library users may not consume alcohol or illegal drugs in the building or on Library grounds. Patrons clearly under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs will be asked to leave Library grounds.
10. Damaging Library property is not allowed.
11. All Library materials must be checked out before Library users leave the building.
12. Library users are responsible for their personal property. Please do not leave items unattended.
13. With the exception of service animals, no animals are allowed in the Library without the approval of the Library Director.
14. Sleeping in the library or on library grounds is not permitted.
15. No soliciting of goods or services is allowed in the Library or on Library grounds.
16. Possession of firearms or other dangerous weapons is prohibited (except by law enforcement officers).
17. Any Library user, in the opinion of the staff, who is engaging in conduct that interferes with the orderly operation of the library, will be asked to leave.
18. Engaging in any activity in violation of Federal, State, local law or Library policy is not allowed in the Library or on Library grounds.

For additional information please see:

- Food and Drink Policy
- Teen Room Policy
- Unattended Children Policy
- Noise Level Policy

Voted by Board of Library Trustees: June 26, 2002. Amended: March 13, 2012.
Amended: June 14, 2016