

Chesterfield Public Library: Policy on Behavior

Statement: The library welcomes everyone to visit and use its collection and other resources with the assistance as needed of the library staff. The library also desires and intends to provide a safe and appropriate environment for all of its patrons, and accordingly expects each and every person, regardless of age, to act in a responsible manner, both inside the building and on the library grounds. The Library Director or the Assistant Library Director may deny the use of the library and its services for due cause.

Inappropriate Behavior: Any behavior that reasonably disturbs other library visitors or interrupts the orderly course of library business or meetings is deemed inappropriate and is unacceptable. Inappropriate behavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Making disruptive noise
- Engaging in a disruptive activity
- Using tobacco products, e-cigarettes and equivalents, or illegal drugs anywhere on library property
- Eating food or snacks in non-designated areas
- Unattended children younger than ten (10) years of age or at discretion of Director
- Failing to wear a shirt and/or shoes or other footwear
- Soliciting or distribution of leaflets whether for commercial, political, or other purposes
- Panhandling
- Leaving/storing personal belongings in an area that hampers the use of or access to public space
- Loitering
- Using sports equipment including but not limited to roller blades, skateboards, hockey sticks, rubber balls, basketballs, soccer balls, or other types of balls
- Bringing animals to the library other than service animals and program animals
- Stealing, damaging or destroying library materials, equipment or property
- Using library materials, equipment or property for any non-intended purpose
- Behaving violently wherein violent behavior includes but is not limited to:
 - + Physical or verbal harassment
 - + Threatening the personal safety of other patrons and/or the staff
 - + Having or using a weapon or any item resembling or being used as a weapon

Such behavior will be addressed by the library staff. Any member of the staff has the right to approach any person engaging in inappropriate behavior and request that the behavior cease or make an attempt to otherwise resolve the situation. If the person continues the inappropriate behavior after such a request or attempted resolution by the staff, the person may be asked to leave. The Library Director or Assistant Library Director may revoke library privileges for any unresolved inappropriate behavior. Library users younger than 18 years of age, accompanied by a parent or guardian, must meet with the Library Director before reinstatement of privileges will be considered.

The police will be called in to handle any inappropriate behavior that rises to the level of a misdemeanor or felony.