

Chelsea Public Library Behavior Policy

The purpose of this policy is to maintain an atmosphere that promotes the use and enjoyment of the resources and services of the Library; promotes the safety of the general public and the Library staff; and protects the building, furniture, equipment, and materials of the Library. It applies to anyone in the library space, regardless of age.

1. Show mutual respect for everyone in the library. Allow others to use the library in peace.
2. Treat library materials and property with care.
3. Neither the library nor its staff is responsible for patrons' children or personal belongings.
4. Food and non-alcoholic beverages are allowed unless otherwise posted. Avoid food/drink contact with library materials, furnishings and computers.
5. Use electronic equipment at a volume that does not disturb others – this includes cell phones, virtual meetings, videos, etc.
6. Smoking, alcohol and the use of illegal drugs are prohibited. Patrons displaying signs of impairment or intoxication by alcohol or drugs will be asked to leave.
7. Violent or threatening behavior is prohibited. This includes but is not limited to: intimidating, following, staring, threatening, making unwanted physical contact, and/or engaging in disruptive behavior.
8. Taking photographs or videos of library users without their permission, or otherwise violating their privacy, is prohibited and may violate state laws protecting the privacy and confidentiality of library users' records and information.
9. Selling, soliciting, surveying, distributing written materials, panhandling or canvassing for any political, charitable or religious purposes inside the library without prior authorization of the Library Director or the Board of Trustees is prohibited.
10. Brandishing, unholstering, and/or threatening behavior with any dangerous weapon or facsimile of any dangerous weapon is prohibited in the library building and grounds. This includes, but is not limited to, any gun, projectile firing weapon or device, knife, dagger, switchblade or folding knife.
11. Violations of rules for library behavior could result in the patron(s) being asked to leave, police being called, and/or the patron(s) being barred from the library.
12. Law enforcement will be called if improper acts that are subject to prosecution under criminal or civil codes of law occur.

The library staff have the responsibility and the authority to take steps to ensure that the rules are enforced. The judgment of the staff shall determine what is considered inappropriate or

unsafe behavior. Please bring any concerns about possible violations of this policy to the attention of the Library staff.

Action	Date
Approved by the Library Board of Trustees	9/12/2022