



06/14/21

Dear Friends,

Greetings from the Library as we continue along our journey of restoring full public library services to the community. As the COVID-19 environment evolves, we continue to adjust our services and occupancy as quickly as possible. As we enter into what we hope is the final phase of our phased plan to restore services, we would like to report that after careful consideration, the Trustees of the Library voted unanimously to relax the Library's requirement for face masks effective Saturday, June 12.

Since we closed our doors last year on March 16, we have taken every precaution to protect our community, patrons, and staff. We have closely followed the data and the guidance coming to us from federal, state, and local sources. All along we promised that we would follow the science and that we would restore full library services as soon as was deemed safe to do so. Currently, the vulnerability level in the county is very low and because of this, we feel it safe to return the onus to individuals to make informed choices about their healthcare and that of their children when choosing to visit the Library.

Effective immediately:

- Fully vaccinated patrons are no longer required to wear masks in our building.
- Unvaccinated patrons are expected to wear masks and remain socially distanced on Library property.
- People who are exhibiting signs of illness should continue to make plans to visit us when they are feeling better.

Our staff, though fully vaccinated, may choose to wear masks for their own comfort and if requested to do so while working with a patron. Our goal is to make visiting the Library as comfortable as possible for our patrons of all ages.

We will still continue our popular contactless pickup system for patrons who enjoy using that service and will be maintaining the highest standards of cleanliness and sanitization. We will also continue to diligently follow the data and guidance regarding COVID-19 from federal, state, and local sources and should the situation change quickly we are poised to react just as immediately to pull back our services as is required for safety.

It would appear that better days are upon us. We are all looking forward to a great summer at the Library. We are planning another summer of great summer reading programs and experiences for both children and adults. If you have not visited our Story Walk behind the Library in a while, stop by and check out our new storytime chair just recently installed! It is a beauty!

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us with any questions you might have about our services and access. We can be reached by phone at (603) 868-6699 or email at durhampl@gmail.com.

Thank you for all your patience and support for the Durham Public Library during this time. We WILL and ARE getting through this together!

Respectfully,

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