

BEHAVIOR POLICY

Goal. The Seabrook Library is a public building with a goal of excellence in service to all patrons. An atmosphere of peace is an element deemed essential to the achievement of this goal. Toward this end everyone must behave in a civilized manner, respecting the rights of others to pursue their own goals in the Library.

Justification. Following NH RSA 202-A:11, the Trustees have established a set of guidelines for acceptable behavior within the Library and on Library grounds. The Library has enacted a zero-tolerance policy for unacceptable behavior and posted this policy in public places in the library. All staff members are authorized to implement this policy.

Implementation. A warning may (or may not) be issued. The first violation means expulsion from the Library building and grounds for 1 day. The second violation will result in a week's suspension and a phone call home. A third violation will mean a one month or permanent suspension, depending on the severity of the infraction. Any attempt to "sneak in" during the suspension will trigger the next degree of penalty. Refusal to leave the premises will result in loss of privileges and the Police being notified. At no time will the library staff use physical force to remove a customer from the Library.

Parents and guardians must be aware that if their children misbehave, they will be ordered out of the Library and its grounds, regardless of the age of the child, the weather conditions, or the time of day. The Library staff will allow one phone call to any such minor child for the express purpose of notifying parents/guardians of a request for an immediate ride home. Such minors will be made aware of the fact that the Police Station next door is an appropriate place to wait for a ride. An expulsion for cause will have the recourse of an appeal to the Library's Board of Trustees by written request within 10 days of the incident. It will be considered at the next Trustees' meeting and a judgment or a request for further information will be made within 10 days of the meeting.

The Library reserves the right to intervene or prohibit various other non-specified activities as the need arises.

Prohibited behaviors on ALL Library property, including the parking lot:

1. Running, roughhousing, pushing
2. Violent, threatening, or bullying words or deeds
3. Fighting, hitting
4. Yelling or any other excessive noise
5. Use of skateboards, rollerblades, roller skates, or scooters of any kind
6. Bike riding other than as a means of transportation to get to and leave the Library
7. Weapons
8. Littering
9. Loitering
10. Blocking doorways or aisles or any other behavior that deters others from the entrance to the building

11. Unattended children under age 8
12. Soliciting (of the public or staff) including but not limited to that of a political, religious, nonprofit or commercial nature; petitioning; distribution of literature (except with permission at the public bulletin boards in the lobby); taking surveys; proselytizing publicly on any topic; panhandling or begging.
13. Smoking, chewing, or other tobacco use
14. Ball playing, frisbee tossing, or other sports activities
15. Defacing, damaging, vandalizing, or theft of library property, staff property, or patron property
16. Illegal drug activity in all forms
17. Alcoholic beverages or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs
18. Excessive displays of affection
19. Sexual misconduct, harassment, lewd and lascivious behavior
20. Urinating or defecating in anything other than a toilet or urinal
21. Threats of suicide will be immediately reported to the Police
22. All illegal activities

In addition to the list of prohibited acts on all Library grounds, these rules also apply inside.

Prohibited behaviors INSIDE the Library building:

1. Disruptive cell phone use:
 - a. ring must be set to vibrate
 - b. all speakerphone conversations are prohibited
 - c. phone conversations should be short and quiet
2. Running, pushing, shoving
3. Sleeping or sprawling on furniture or floors
4. Personal listening devices at a volume that can be heard by others
5. Bathroom misuse by the washing of clothes or person; deposit of dirty diapers; vandalism
6. Use of any athletic equipment
7. Throwing of any object
8. More than one person per chair
9. More than two people per computer
10. Interfering with the staff in the performance of their duties
11. Inappropriate attire (shirts and shoes must be worn)
12. Adults not related to, or indirect supervision of children shall not loiter in the Children's Area
13. Improper use of public computers
14. All illegal activity.

