



NEW CASTLE • HENRY COUNTY

PUBLIC LIBRARY

UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR POLICY

In an effort to provide a comfortable and safe environment for all Library patrons, the Board of Trustees of the New Castle-Henry County Public Library has established a Library Unacceptable Behavior Policy. This policy is designed to provide clear and reasonable guidelines governing patron behavior within the Library and on the Library premises.

Unacceptable behavior includes behavior within the Library or on Library premises that interferes with the use of the Library by other patrons, creates a risk of injury to other patrons or Library personnel, interferes with the work of Library personnel, or creates a risk of damage to Library property. Unacceptable behavior includes, but is not limited to:

- Use or display of profanity, abusive or threatening language or gestures
- Smoking, vaping, or use of any tobacco products in the Library or on Library premises
- Unreasonable noise levels including shouting, loud talking or disruptive conversation, allowing ringing cell phones or engaging in loud cell phone conversations
- Damaging, defacing or theft of any Library property or materials or patrons' personal property
- Failure to evacuate in an emergency or during a drill
- Non-emergency activation of alarms
- Fighting, throwing objects and other boisterous behavior including running and horseplay
- Solicitation, gambling or panhandling
- Loitering
- Use of or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs
- Skating, skateboarding or bicycling on library property
- Bringing animals into the Library except those who are part of a Library sponsored program or are service animals
- Failure to wear appropriate attire including shirt and shoes
- Violence, sexual or any other type of harassment
- Excessive displays of affection including any sexual conduct or physical contact deemed inappropriate for a public place and/or public lewdness
- Being in an unauthorized, staff-only area
- Leaving children unsupervised
- Lack of personal hygiene that interferes with the use and enjoyment of the Library by other patrons or interferes with the work of Library personnel
- Possession of weapons of any kind, except by law enforcement officers or as allowed by IC 35-47-11.1

The Library reserves the right to require anyone who engages in inappropriate behavior to leave the premises, the right to restrict privileges for a specified period of time, and the right to ban the individual from the library for a specified period of time or permanently. Staff members will notify an individual that he or she is in violation of the standards of conduct and will provide one verbal warning. Unlawful activities will be reported immediately to the police.

Revised: June 19, 2000

Revised: May 15, 2006

Revised: August 20, 2007

Revised: June 20, 2011

Revised: September 16, 2013

Revised: April 18, 2016

Revised: August 17, 2021