



**DOVER
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Acceptable Behavior Policy

LOCATION
35 Loockerman Plaza
Dover, DE 19904

CONTACT
302.736.7030
doverpubliclibrary.org

The Library maintains an atmosphere that promotes the use and enjoyment of its resources and services; promotes the safety of the public and Library staff; and protects the building, furniture, equipment, and materials of the Library.

While on Library Property:

- All persons shall respect the rights of others. No one shall harass, annoy, or interfere with any other person by means of physical contact, communication or other intrusive behavior. No one shall interfere with Library personnel in the performance of their duties.
- Any activity that is inconsistent with normal Library purposes is not allowed. Some examples of this are: bathing, washing laundry, sleeping, sexual activity, loitering, or panhandling.
- No one may deface, destroy, steal, move or misuse any Library materials, furnishings, equipment or other Library property. Patrons must abide by the Computer Use Policy.
- The use of alcohol or any drug constituting a controlled, dangerous substance as defined by law is not allowed. No one under the influence of alcohol or such drugs shall be allowed in the Library or on its grounds.
- The City of Dover is a smoke-free campus. Smoking and/or the use of tobacco, vapes, or any similar device is not allowed and subject to fines.
- Only law enforcement personnel may be in possession of weapons or firearms in the Library or on Library grounds.
- Patrons must be fully clothed while in the Library. Shirts and shoes must be worn at all times.
- Conversations shall be conducted quietly. Shouting, loud voices, abusive or offensive language are not allowed.
- Computer and device users must wear headphones when needed to minimize disruptive noise.
- The Library requests that cell phones be set to silent while in the Library. While conversing on cell phones, patrons must speak quietly and with discretion. Cell phone use is prohibited in designated silent areas of the Library.
- Patrons shall dispose of litter and debris in trash containers and leave table-tops and chairs clean.
- Food is only allowed in designated spaces as part of a program or event. Covered drinks are allowed.
- Animals, except for service animals as defined in the Americans with Disabilities Act, are not allowed except in connection with Library programs.
- Personal belongings are subject to inspection by Library personnel and may not be left unattended. The Library is not responsible for lost or stolen personal property.
- Luggage, bedding, or camping gear are not allowed in the Library. Only one bag is allowed per person.
- The Family Restroom in the Kids Space is available for use by children with their parents or caregivers only.
- Running, rollerblading, skateboarding, and similar activities are not allowed in the Library or on Library grounds.
- Bicycles may not be brought inside the Library or left in an area that blocks access in any way.
- The entrances to the Library may not be blocked.
- No unauthorized sales, solicitations of contributions, or collection of signatures by any outside organization or individual are allowed.
- Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult that is responsible for their care.
- The Kids Space is for children 12 and under; the Teen Loft is for ages 12 to 18. Adults without children/teens present may be asked to move to a different part of the Library.
- Minors under the age of 18 may not be left at the Library after closing time. Library staff will not remain on the premises past closing. The Dover Police Department will be notified if minors are present and unaccompanied after closing hours.

Anyone who fails to meet these standards of acceptable behavior or any other Library policy will be required to leave the premises. If unacceptable behavior occurs again, the individual may be denied the privilege of Library use for a set period of time or indefinitely. The Dover Public Library reserves the right to amend this Policy at any time.