

GRIMES PUBLIC LIBRARY BEHAVIOR POLICY

The Grimes Public Library Behavior Policy has a threefold purpose: to protect the rights and safety of library patrons and volunteers, to protect the rights and safety of staff members, and to preserve the library's materials, facilities, property, and grounds.

Library staff are empowered to use their judgement when responding to behavior violations. Behavior violations will be addressed and could include verbal warnings and suspension of library privileges. Security cameras are in use in and around the library, and when needed, staff may also work with the law enforcement to maintain a safe environment.

The examples listed in this policy are not intended to be exhaustive. We expect our patrons to:

- respect fellow patrons, library staff and facilities.
- use all collections, supplies, equipment, facilities and furniture on the premises for their intended purposes.
- act legally and ethically.

Adult patrons in the children's or teen area who are not retrieving materials nor are caregivers for a child or teen may be asked to relocate to another area of the library.

Behavior Violations

1. Behaving in a manner that endangers or could endanger the safety or health of others.
2. Intentionally interfering with another person's enjoyment of library services and facilities.
3. Refusing to comply with the directive of library staff.
4. Annoying, harassing, intimidating, threatening or discriminating against library staff or patrons through words or actions including unwanted sexual or physical advances.
5. Creating unreasonable noise or disruptive behavior (e.g., shouting, running, pushing, throwing.)
6. Engaging in loud conversations and/or the use of audible devices. Cell phones should be set to silent or vibrate and device speakers muted or headphones used.
7. Failing to monitor the activity and/or regulate the behavior of persons in their care.
8. Entering without appropriate attire (e.g., no shirt or shoes.) Children in first floor youth play areas may remove their shoes. Shoes must be worn in all areas outside of the youth play structures. Clothing must be worn over diapers.
9. Consuming food and beverages beyond individual snacks and covered drinks outside of the study and meeting rooms.

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10. Entering non-public areas without permission.
11. Monopolizing library equipment or furniture to prevent others from using them.
12. Bringing animals into the library except trained service animals or as authorized for library-sponsored events.
13. Emitting strong odors (e.g., poor bodily hygiene, fragrance, alcohol) that interfere with other's use of library services and facilities.
14. Leaving packages, backpacks, luggage, or any other personal items unattended or blocking pathways. Personal property must always be within sight of the owner. The library assumes no responsibility for personal items left unattended on library premises.
15. Sleeping on library premises or exhibiting the appearance of sleep.
16. Using bathrooms for bathing, laundering or other unintended purposes.
17. Depositing litter anywhere other than in garbage receptacles provided.
18. Engaging in sexual activity of any kind, including inappropriate display of romantic affection.
19. Using tobacco products, vaping products, or e-cigarettes on library premises.
20. Relocating or rearranging furniture beyond repositioning existing seating around tables.
21. Using outdoor and/or sporting equipment in the library.
22. Displaying offensive images or using threatening or explicit language.
23. Congregating on library premises in a manner which obstructs access or passage, use of library facilities or services, or where such activity is likely to result in an unsafe or intimidating environment.
24. Soliciting funds or panhandling, engaging in commercial activity, campaigning, unwanted recruiting, petitioning, handing out leaflets or unauthorized notices, or interviewing or surveying patrons or staff.
25. Conducting media or commercial photography or filming without prior permission from the City of Grimes Marketing and Communications Manager or the Library Director or his/her designee.
26. Consuming, possessing, or being under the influence of illicit or intoxicating substances.
27. Physically assaulting or fighting with staff or other patrons.
28. Vandalizing, destroying, or stealing library or personal property.
29. Tampering with or damaging library technology, networks, or data.
30. Attempting to remain in the library after regular business hours.

Approved by the Grimes Public Library Board of Trustees: 09/15; 03/17; 01/18; 02/18, 9/22; 03/24; 11/24; 9/25; 02/26