

STANDARDS FOR PATRON CONDUCT POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

Kitsap Regional Library is open to the public for the specified purposes of reading, studying, researching, meeting, and using library resources. Standards for Patron Conduct promote an environment that encourages everyone to respect the rights of others and to be responsible for their personal safety, the safety of the children in their care, and the security of their personal belongings.

The following are Kitsap Regional Library standards:

1. Library patrons not engaged in reading, studying, research, meeting, or using library resources may be asked to leave. While adults are welcome to access child and teen collections, use of these spaces is reserved for youth and their caregivers.
2. Library staff are not responsible for the care, safety, or supervision of minors or vulnerable adults. Children under school age must be supervised by a caregiver at all times.
3. Library patrons will respect the rights and privacy of other patrons, library staff, and volunteers.
4. Library patrons will not monopolize resources or engage in behavior that may reasonably result in disturbing or impeding library access by others.
5. Physical, sexual, or verbal harassment, stalking, and illegal actions will not be tolerated.
6. Open-carry firearms and weapons are prohibited at all times as per RCW 9.41.300.
7. Library patrons are expected to wear shirts and shoes. Personal hygiene and scents will conform to the standards of the community for public places.
8. Tobacco use, vaping, and smoking are not allowed on library property. Library patrons may not be under the influence of, sell, use, or possess alcohol or illegal drugs while on library property.
9. Overnight parking or camping on library property is prohibited.
10. Light snacks and non-alcoholic beverages in covered containers may be consumed on library property, provided that trash is appropriately disposed of. Library staff may limit or prohibit the consumption of food and beverages within any library facility if those items impede the use of the space by others or may cause damage to library materials.
11. Pets or animals other than service animals may not be brought into the library without prior permission of library staff for purposes such as educational programming. Pets must be kept under control by their owner while on library property.

12. Library patrons will not interfere with the free passage of others in or onto library premises including, but not limited to, placing objects such as bicycles, skateboards, or leashed animals in areas where they may impede movement.
13. Library patrons may not bring large items into the library which cannot be placed safely within the patron's personal space. Patrons may not store unattended belongings on the library premises, including outdoor grounds.
14. Distributing literature, gathering signatures, soliciting contributions, or conducting surveys inside a library facility or on library grounds is not allowed without advance library authorization.

Library staff and/or local law enforcement officers may intervene when Standards for Patron Conduct are not met. Consequences may include trespass, arrest, or prosecution.

[RCW 27.12.290](#): A board of library trustees may exclude from the use of the library under its charge any person who willfully and persistently violates any rule or regulation prescribed for the use of the library or its facilities or any person whose physical condition is deemed dangerous or offensive to other library patrons.