

## **Abington Public Library Code of Conduct**

The Abington Public Library provides users a clean, comfortable and safe place for selecting materials, reading, researching, studying, writing, and attending Library or community sponsored programs and meetings. The Board of Library Trustees establishes rules of conduct to protect the rights and safety of Library patrons, volunteers, and staff, and for preserving and protecting the Library's materials, equipment, facilities and grounds.

The Children's Room is reserved for use by children, their parents or guardians, and adults accessing materials housed in the Children's Room. While all library patrons may access materials housed in the Nero Young Adult Room, **seating in this room is reserved for teen patrons.**

**Inappropriate behavior, as determined by the library staff, will not be tolerated at the Abington Public Library. Individuals acting in a manner that is inappropriate for a library setting will be required to leave the library property.**

### **Examples of disruptive behavior that will not be allowed in the library are:**

- Smoking, in accordance with Massachusetts law, and the use of e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco or any other combustible material.\*
- Food and most beverages except for breast and bottle feeding of infants. Covered containers of beverages such as water or coffee are permitted at study tables in the Library's main space and the Nero Young Adult Room. Beverages may not be left unattended and are not permitted in the book stacks.
- Covered cold beverages are permitted in the seating areas in the Children's Room. Beverages may not be left unattended and are not permitted in the book stacks. Hot beverages are not allowed in the Children's Room.
- Audible use of cellular phones, and other electronic devices.
- Wearing cleats, roller skates, inline skates, roller blades, wheel-heeled shoes or bringing skateboards inside.
- Bicycles left in any area except the bicycle rack.
- Bare feet, according to Massachusetts law, or clothing inappropriate for a library.
- Loud or disruptive behavior, foul language or rudeness to staff or other patrons.
- Any posting or distribution of informational fliers must be done with permission of the Library Director. See also Policy concerning the Display and Distribution of Unsolicited Material.
- Congregating or fooling at entrance, under the portico, or in the garden.
- Climbing trees, fences or the stone wall in the Story Garden.
- Running, shoving, throwing items, misusing furniture.
- Causing damage to library materials, equipment, building, grounds or plantings may result in the assessment of a damage or repair cost.\*

- Tampering or interfering with alarm systems, fire extinguishers, or sprinkler systems, and malicious interference with lifesaving equipment including but not limited to the AED system.\*
- Abuse of Internet and Computer Policy, including time limits or misuse of computers.\*
- Any intentional attempt to add, alter or delete computer files or disable computers\*
- Any item which could be considered potentially dangerous or threatening to another\* (This includes guns, toy guns, knives, brass knuckles, clubs, etc.
- Use of alcohol, marijuana and illegal drugs in accordance with federal, state and municipal laws, policies and by-laws.\*

***\*Items marked above or any serious violation committed by a minor will require a conference with a parent or guardian before library privileges are restored.***

***Students must provide their name to any staff member if requested to do so.***

***Anyone warned about disruptive behavior three times will be asked to leave library. The specific time period for this is at the discretion of the library administration.***

**Patrons are reminded that Massachusetts Law makes theft or mutilation of library materials or property a crime punishable by imprisonment and/or a fine of up to \$25,000 and a requirement to make full restitution. (M.G.L. Chapter 61, Acts of 1990; M.G.L. Chapter 266, Sections 99 and 100)**