

Randolph County Public Library Acceptable Use Policy

The objective of this policy is to ensure that the Randolph County Public Library provides for each user a welcoming, pleasant and safe environment, conducive to reading, studying, seeking information, meeting friends and collaborating; and free from harassment, physical discomfort, danger and psychological and emotional stress. The library environment includes physical spaces, virtual forums and any other venues where library users interact with each other and/or library staff.

In pursuit of this objective the Randolph County Public Library Board of Trustees shall consider the following to be disruptive and unacceptable conduct by individuals accessing library services.

In all library venues, including physical spaces, and in online and telephone interactions:

1. Bullying, intimidation, harassment, stalking, threats, abuse or physical harm against library patrons or staff;
2. Obscene or abusive language or gestures;
3. Failure to respond to requests from library staff members in regard to this policy.

In physical spaces:

4. Smoking or use of any tobacco product including e-cigarettes whether nicotine-based or not;
5. Sustained loud conversation, or noise, that rises above the ambient noise in the library;
6. Engaging in disorderly conduct, committing a nuisance or unreasonably disturbing and offending library users;
7. Protests, demonstrations and/or intentional disruption of library programs or activities;
8. Bodily health or hygiene that constitutes a nuisance or public health risk;
9. Carrying weapons of any sort;
10. Packages, luggage or other collections of personal belongings left unattended;
11. Consumption or exchange of alcoholic beverages and controlled substances;
12. Consumption of food, and consumption of uncovered beverages, except in designated areas;
13. Soliciting (including selling of any kind, taking of surveys, or distribution or posting of leaflets), without authorization by library staff;
14. Sleeping;
15. Destruction of, damage to or theft of library property from buildings or grounds;
16. Removal of material from the library collection without authorization through established lending procedures;
17. Bringing of animals, other than service animals, into buildings;
18. Use of library telephones unless authorized by library staff;
19. Entry into non-public areas except by invitation or approval of library staff;
20. Failure to leave the building promptly at closing.

Disruptive behavior as defined by this policy may result in temporary or permanent exclusion from the library; temporary or permanent denial of any or all library services; and/or intervention by law enforcement personnel.

North Carolina laws pertaining to the Disruptive Behavior Policy: GS 14-33 Misdemeanor assaults, batteries and affrays; GS 14-76 Larceny, mutilation, or destruction of public records and papers; GS 14-127 Willful and wanton injury to real property; GS 14-132 Disorderly Conduct in and injuries to public buildings; GS 14-134 Trespass on land after being forbidden; GS 14-190.9 Indecent exposure; GS 14-204.1 Loitering for the purpose of engaging in prostitution offense; GS14-269 Carrying concealed weapons; GS 14-277.1 Communicating threats; GS 14-398 Theft or destruction of property of public libraries, museums, etc.; GS 153A-266 Powers and duties of trustees.

*Randolph County Public Library Board of Trustees
Approved as revised, July 12, 2018; January 10, 2019; April 8, 2021; January 12, 2023*