

Columbus Public Library

Library User Policy

The Columbus Public Library is committed to providing a welcoming, safe, and respectful environment for learning, recreation, and community engagement. To ensure the comfort and safety of all patrons, the following guidelines apply:

Behavior Guidelines

The library has a responsibility to maintain a safe and secure environment for staff and patrons. Any violation of these guidelines may result in being asked to leave the premises and/or law enforcement being contacted.

Prohibited behaviors include:

- Aggressive or abusive behavior or language toward staff or other patrons
 - Direct or indirect threats
 - Profanity or hate speech directed at an individual
 - Fighting
 - Excessive or disruptive noise
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Health & Safety Guidelines

To maintain a healthy and comfortable environment for everyone, patrons must:

- Be fully clothed and wear shoes at all times
 - Refrain from using or consuming tobacco products, vape products, alcohol, or other controlled substances
 - Not enter the library while under the influence of alcohol or drugs
 - Not carry concealed or openly carried firearms or other weapons
 - Not damage, deface, or misuse public property
 - Keep food and beverages in closed containers, and avoid eating or drinking near public computers
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Unsupervised Children in the Library

Columbus Public Library welcomes children of all ages. However, parents and guardians are responsible for supervising their children and ensuring they follow this policy.

- Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or caretaker at all times
 - Siblings or caretakers must be at least 12 years old to be considered adequate supervisors
 - If a child is left unattended at closing time, staff will attempt to contact a parent/guardian. If a child has not been picked up within 5 minutes after closing, the Columbus Police Department will be contacted
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Animals in the Library

No pets or animals are allowed in the library unless they are:

- Service animals, as defined by Title II and Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Animals that are part of a Library-sponsored program