

DERRY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Patron Code of Conduct
Approved 05/15/23

The Derry Public Library (“DPL”) is committed to providing and protecting all library users’ right of access to library facilities and to information. DPL’s Patron Code of Conduct therefore has a threefold purpose: to protect the rights and safety of library patrons, to protect the rights and safety of staff members, and to preserve and protect the library’s materials, facilities, and property.

Persons who violate these rules may be removed from the premises and denied library privileges. This policy has been developed within the framework of the American Library Association Code of Professional Ethics, the *Library Bill of Rights*, and the law, including constitutional standards under the First and Fourteenth Amendments.

To keep DPL a welcoming place for everyone, we abide by the following guidelines:

- Parents/guardians/caregivers are responsible for their children.
- Patrons of any age who are disturbing others will be asked to modify their behavior or to leave.
- Patrons must refrain from displaying obscene or objectionable material.
- Behavior that violates town, state or federal laws, orders or regulations may result in the police being called.
- Children and teens have priority in seating and computer usage in designated areas of the building.
 - The children’s room is intended for children ages birth through 11 and their families/caregivers.
 - The teen area is intended for teens age 12 through 18.
- Beverages may be consumed throughout the building, except in the area of the public PCs and in the New Hampshire Room.
- Out of consideration for those with food allergies, food may only be consumed in the upstairs café area, in the children’s graphic novel room, and on the outdoor patio, unless part of a DPL-approved program.
- When making or taking telephone calls in the library, patrons should exercise good judgment and take care not to disturb other library users.

All patrons must abide by all DPL policies in order to ensure equal access to DPL’s facilities and information. The Library Director reserves the right to ban any patron from the library who chooses not to comply with DPL policies. Patrons have the right to appeal this ban by addressing the matter with the DPL Board of Trustees.