



PATRON BEHAVIOR POLICY

Hopkinton Public Library is intended to provide access to library materials, information, and equipment, and to serve as a location for general studies and cultural activities. For the library to be enjoyed by all patrons, the following rules and regulations should be observed. Patrons who exhibit behavior inconsistent with the following rules may be asked to leave the library.

The following activities are not allowed in the library:

1. Being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs and or smoking or using illegal drugs.
2. Offensive sexual or other behavior-or speaking to a patron or staff member in an obscene or offensive manner; or wearing clothing with offensive language or graphics.
3. Threatening, verbal harassment, physical molestation or assault of patrons or staff.
4. Any activities that violate local, state, or federal laws and or possession of weapons unless authorized by law.
5. Soliciting, campaigning, picketing or conducting surveys.
6. Running, pushing, shoving, or throwing objects.
7. Cell phone use is allowed on the main floor and second floor, provided that ringers are turned off and **headphones or earbuds are used**. Voices must be kept at an acceptable volume so as not to disturb other patrons or staff. Staff have the right to ask patrons to lower their voices. Cell phone use audible to others is not permitted unless it is being used in one of the quiet study rooms at a

normal speaking volume that does not disturb others.

8. Entering the library with inappropriate attire, barefooted, without a shirt, with offensive body odor or personal hygiene or indecent exposure.
9. Skateboarding, roller-blading or like activities inside the building or on the library grounds
10. Playing of audio equipment without the use of headphones or earbuds.
11. Bringing animals into the library except those needed to assist a patron with a disability or programmers hired by the library whose educational programs include animals is not permitted.
12. Talking loudly so that it disturbs other patrons or staff is not permitted in the library. Staff have the right to ask patrons to lower their voices.
13. Leaving a child under the age of nine (9) unattended in the library.
14. Interfering with another person's use of the library or with library personnel's performance of their duties
15. Destruction or theft of library property or personal property of patrons and staff.

Self-contained snacks (ie: popcorn, chips, vegetable sticks) are allowed throughout the library. Hot or cold meals (sandwiches, subs, pizza, etc.) are not permitted. Drinks with covers are allowed. There is a snack vending machine on the main floor for patron convenience. Waste receptacles are placed throughout the library. Patrons are expected to clean up after themselves.

Patrons in violation may be denied access to the library for up to one year.

Voted on by the Board of Library Trustees in 2022 and updated on 12/16/24 and 3/17/25.