

Bedford Public Library

Teen Room Policy

Policy Statement 1

The Bedford Public Library is committed to providing an inviting and safe space for teenage patrons to engage in individual and group activities. The social nature and unique characteristics of this age group require a separate space designed for their needs.

Regulations

- 1.1 The Teen Room at the Bedford Public Library is for junior high and high school students in 6th-12th grade.
- 1.2 The Library recognizes that some families homeschool their children. Homeschool students 6th-12th grade are encouraged to take advantage of the Teen Room for studying, accessing computers and utilizing the collection.
- 1.3 While patrons of all ages are welcome to browse and check out materials from this Young Adult Collection, the use of computers, television and other electronic equipment within this room is exclusively for the use of the junior high and high school students in 6th-12th grade.
- 1.4 Parents or caregivers may be in the Teen Room with their child, if the child is between 6th-12th grade.
- 1.5 The Library reserves the right to utilize the Teen Room for scheduled teen programs, events and gaming activities.

Policy Statement 2

Teens are expected to respect the overall Library environment, and may not engage in activities or communications that disrupt other Library users or staff. All other Library policies apply to the Teen Room. The library reserves the right to limit the use of the library by teens who, in the judgment of the library staff, are infringing upon the rights of other library users by inappropriate behavior.

Regulations

- 2.1 Teens shall respect each other, library staff and other patrons in word and action.
- 2.2 The Teen Area should be used only for its intended purposes, therefore, no rough housing, no running, no hitting, no spitting, no public displays of affection, and no swearing or abusive language will be permitted.
- 2.3 Verbal or physical abuse of staff or patrons such as cursing, rude or demeaning comments, talking back to library staff or customers, hitting, biting, kicking, punching, teasing other customers is not permitted.
- 2.4 Any behavior considered aggressive by the staff may result in the police being notified and further actions may be taken.
- 2.5 Vandalism, theft or damage of library property or to library grounds is a legal matter and the police will be notified.
- 2.6 Bottled water with twist tops are allowed in the Teen Room. Other food and beverages must be consumed in the vending area or lobby of the library.
- 2.7 The Code of Conduct and Responsibility apply to the Teen Room.

Policy Statement 3

The Library recognizes the importance of supporting the educational and recreational needs of teens by providing access to computer equipment. The Library has designated the computers located within the Teen Room and directly outside as Teen Only computers.

Regulations

- 3.1 The use of the teen computers is restricted to homeschool, junior high and high school students 6th.
- 3.2 No exceptions will be made for library patrons whose age falls outside this range.
- 3.3 Water bottles are prohibited near computer equipment.

Enforcement

Teens in violation of the Teen Room Policy or the Code of Conduct and Responsibilities will be given a warning. Library staff reserves the right to immediately ask teens in question to leave in cases of extreme behavior or repeated violations of the same policy. Teens who cannot behave may lose library privileges and be required to be accompanied by an adult when on library property.