

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY PATRON CONDUCT POLICY

It is the goal of the Library Board and staff of the South San Francisco Public Library for all visitors to have a positive and safe experience when using the facilities. This policy is designed to ensure Library facilities serve their primary purposes, including the provision of a quiet and orderly environment in which people may read, study, use library materials and equipment, and contemplate. The rules may regulate disruptive behavior, noise, offensive odors, health and sanitation hazards, and bringing possessions, materials, or objects into the Library which are likely to interfere with its use by others. The rules may not unreasonably or unfairly restrict access to libraries by any person or group.

BEHAVIORS THAT ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE AND/OR ARE PROHIBITED BY LAW:

1. Damage, destruction, or theft of library property, tampering with computer hardware and/or software, and other illegal activities including (but not limited to) graffiti, vandalism, smoking (including e-cigarettes or vaping), or circumvention of security systems.
2. Use of abusive and/or cursing language.
3. Engaging in or threatening physical assault or abuse; threatening or harassing other patrons or Library staff.
4. Obstructing entrances or exits or interfering with the ability of patrons or staff to enter or exit the library.
5. Solicitations within Library/Community Learning Center buildings (excluding those of the Library and/or Friends of the Library).
6. Disruptive behavior (including running and jumping) such as loud conversations on cell phones or in person or other noise and loitering in groups for any unlawful purpose.
7. Bringing in bedrolls, big boxes, or bulky bags that may obstruct free passage within the Library. Belongings must fit comfortably under the chair or table of occupant, without extending into pathways.
8. Sleeping or lying on the floor or furniture in Library buildings.
9. Obstructing pathways with belongings and/or by sitting or lying on the floor.
10. Drinking beverages or eating in the buildings (except when offered as part of a library program). Beverages in closed containers are acceptable.
11. Using restrooms as bathing or laundering facilities.
12. Strong odors and/or lack of personal hygiene so as to be offensive to others.

13. Having bare feet and/or being shirtless.
14. Leaving personal belongings unattended. Please keep all personal items with you at all times.
15. Moving furnishings and/or equipment.
16. Occupying more than one seat.
17. Using skateboards, roller blades, rolling shoes, etc. in the Library or on Library property in a manner that disrupts access to or use of the Library; bringing bicycles or rolling containers used for storage, such as shopping carts and strollers, into the facility; these must be secured to the appropriate racks outside.
18. Bringing animals or pets into buildings. Service animals, however, are excepted.

Unattended Children – Parents are responsible for the behavior and safety of their children using the Library. Children under the age of ten must be closely accompanied at all times by a parent or responsible adult caregiver. The police may be called when children are left unattended. (Unattended Children Policy)

The Children's Area is limited to persons under age 18 and their accompanying parent, caregiver, or teacher, and those using the Children's collection. For safety, computers in the Children's Area may only be used by children; their accompanying parent, caregiver or teacher may assist them. The Teen Area is limited to persons under age 18 after 2:30 pm or adults using the Teen collection.

Courtesy Reminder: The Library encourages a scent free environment. Please be sensitive to others.

When a patron behaves in a manner that violates this policy, Library Staff may ask a patron to leave the Library facilities with or without warning, may contact law enforcement if necessary, and/or may suspend the patron from use of the Library facilities, in accordance with the Suspension of Library Privileges Policy.

Adopted by Library Board of Trustees: August 28, 2001
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