



## Patron Behavior Policy

It is the goal of the Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library to maintain a safe, inviting, and pleasant environment for all patrons. To better serve patrons, the Board of Trustees has established the following standards to provide an enjoyable experience for anyone using the library.

The following are **not** permitted on Library property:

- Any illegal activity
- Use of alcohol, tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vaping devices
- Any form of sexual misconduct, including exposure, offensive touching or sexual harassment of patrons or staff
- Gambling
- Begging or soliciting
- Discourteous or threatening behavior towards patrons and staff
- Use of profanity
- Animals, with the exception of service animals
- Possession of weapons, unless provided by Indiana State Law
- Refusing to comply with the reasonable requests of any staff member
- Disruptive activity that interferes with the use of the Library by others

Theft, damage or destruction of Library property is a crime and will be prosecuted. Library staff are not responsible for the safety of personal belongings left unattended. The Library may expel patrons from the library premises who refuse to comply with the above guidelines, at the discretion of management staff.

### **Children in the library:**

Children are welcome at the Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library. Staff strive to provide a safe and comfortable environment for people of all ages. However, staff cannot assume the responsibility of a child's care. The behavior and welfare of children are the responsibility of the parents, guardians or caregivers.

Children 12 years-old and under may not be left unattended in the Library. They must be accompanied by an adult on library premises during the duration of their visit.

Children 13 years-old and older may use the Library unaccompanied. If a child in this age range is not able to leave the Library without an adult, he or she should not be in the Library unsupervised.

If a child is being disruptive, is left unattended when the Library is closing, or is deemed to be at risk of coming to harm, every effort will be made to locate a parent, guardian or caregiver. If necessary, law enforcement may be notified to assist staff.

Policy adopted by the Fortville-Vernon Township Public Library Board of Trustees on November 20, 2018.