RULES OF CONDUCT

Lansdale Public Library respects the rights of all of our library users. The following rules of conduct are intended to preserve the library as a safe and pleasant community gathering place.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Personal property is your responsibility. Do not leave laptops, purses, or other valuables unattended. Unattended items may be disposed of by staff members.

Bags and other materials which are difficult to inspect because of the nature of the items are not allowed in the building. Oversized bags and articles that could be used to conceal Library property are subject to inspection.

Bikes and shopping carts must remain outside the library. Strollers and mobility aids may be brought inside the library and stored in appropriate locations. If bikes, shopping carts, strollers, or mobility aids remain unattended on library property when the library is closed, they may be disposed of by staff members.

Access to library doors, hallways, materials, shelves, and equipment may not be blocked by library users or their belongings.

PERSONAL DEVICES

Use of cell phones and personal devices is permitted under the following restrictions:

- Headphones must be used at all times. Speaker mode is not permitted.
- Ringers must be set to a silent or vibrate mode.
- Conversations must be conducted in a low tone of voice so as to not disturb others.
- Patrons must abide by the instructions of the library staff if asked to modulate their volume.

For specific information regarding video calls and video conferencing, please see our Filming in the Library policy.

CHILDREN

Children under 10 must be accompanied at all times by an adult 16 or older. See the Unattended Children Policy for more information.

The children's room primarily exists to serve children and their caregivers. Adults and teenagers without children may enter the children's room to browse the collection and find books, but they may not sit or loiter in the children's room, unless they receive explicit permission from a staff member.

PERSONAL BEHAVIOR

Harassing or annoying other library users or staff through noisy or boisterous activities is not permitted. This includes, but is not limited to: spinning on chairs, throwing objects, using profanity or slurs, talking loudly, running, and entering staff-only areas of the building.

Any activity prohibited by law is not permitted in the library. Violence, use of drugs, theft, and vandalism will not be tolerated. Offensive weapons as defined by 18 Pa.C.S.A. § 908(c) are not allowed in the library.

Smoking and vaping are not permitted inside or outside the library, including the library parking lot.

Library users may not enter or remain in the library if intoxicated by a drug or alcohol.

Sleeping, lying down, or giving the appearance of sleeping, is not permitted in the library.

Furniture is to be used as intended; feet may not be placed on tables or chairs. One person per chair. Library users are not permitted to move furniture without prior staff approval.

Food and drink are only permitted in designated areas, and never near the computers. Drinks are only permitted in closed containers.

Trash must be disposed of in a trash receptacle and not left on tables, shelves, chairs, or floor.

Restrooms must not be misused; misuse includes but is not limited to: damaging the fixtures, washing clothes or bodies, defacing walls, or flushing objects other than an appropriate amount of toilet paper and sanitary products.

ATTIRE AND HYGIENE

Library users must wear appropriate attire that covers both upper and lower torsos. Messages and images on clothing must be appropriate for a child-friendly setting. Library director has final discretion on what constitutes appropriate for a child-friendly setting. Shoes may not be removed within the library building.

Library users may not enter or remain in the library if, because of lack of hygiene or excessive use of perfume or cologne, they have a strong odor that would be offensive to a person of ordinary sensibilities.

GROUP MEETINGS

Groups meeting in the library must follow all of the above rules. Conversations should not be loud enough to distract other library users. If the group activity is such that these rules cannot be followed, then the group will be required to discontinue the meeting and may be prevented from conducting similar meetings in the future.

ANIMALS

Animals are only permitted if they qualify as service animals by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), or if explicitly permitted for a library program. Animals are not permitted to be tethered outside on library property and are not permitted to remain in parked cars, even with the windows down. Law enforcement may be contacted if neglect or animal cruelty is suspected.

SUSPENSION OF LIBRARY PRIVILEGES

Failure to follow the Lansdale Public Library Rules of Conduct may result in suspension of library privileges, including but not limited to entering library property.

Library users who have had their privileges suspended by the library are not permitted on library property, including the library parking lot. If a suspended individual enters library property before their suspension has ended, it will be considered criminal trespass and the individual will be asked to leave. If the individual does not leave when asked, staff will contact local law enforcement.

Approved by the Board of Trustees, November 27, 2023; amended 4/2/24