

## Sanger Public Library Behavior Policy

### General:

To facilitate the library's mission, library patrons are expected to demonstrate respect for public property, library staff and the rights of other patrons through adherence to the following guidelines.

1. Patrons are expected to obey city, state, and federal laws and ordinances. Persons observed violating said laws will be reported to the proper authorities.
2. Children must abide by the same rules of behavior that apply to all patrons. Children persisting in disruptive behavior will be asked to leave the library and library privileges may be suspended or revoked.
3. Children under the age of eleven and children with special needs must follow the guidelines outlined in the **Unattended Children's Policy**. (see policy)
4. In the event that a child is left at library closing, staff will assess the situation following the guidelines outlined in the **Unattended Children's Policy**. Staff may contact the police.
5. Respectful and responsible behavior is expected. Patrons are expected to respect the personal space and boundaries of others by maintaining an appropriate distance and refraining from any intrusive or unwelcome behavior. Patron behavior that disrupts normal library activities or impedes Library staff's ability to provide services is strictly prohibited.

Such behaviors include, but are not limited to:

- a. Excessive and continued noise.
- b. Running, jumping, climbing, etc. on library property.
- c. Utilizing recreation devices indoors, such as skateboards, shoes with wheels, roller skates, rollerblades, bicycles and scooters.
- d. Engaging in loud, noisy, profane, obscene, or abusive speech, gestures, and/or conduct whether directed at another person or not.
- e. Playing music or other media without headphones or at a level with headphones that is disruptive to others.
- f. Leaving or not attending to any disruptive child. Disruptive behavior includes but is not limited to running, screaming, and/or crying. Caregivers may be asked to soothe or settle a disruptive child outside of the library premises.
- g. Pushing, shoving, throwing objects, fighting, yelling.

- h. Physical, verbal, mental or emotional abuse/harassment/assault. Blocking or following staff or other library users or a staff member or member of the public.
  - i. Possession or consumption of alcohol, or illegal drugs.
  - j. Intoxication.
  - k. Smoking/vaping is prohibited inside the building and within twenty feet of the entrance.
  - l. Deliberate damage to library materials, property or facilities.
  - m. Weapons, offensive clothing, bare feet, failure to wear appropriate attire, (including, shirt and shoes) at all times.
  - n. Sleeping is prohibited for safety reasons. Staff will wake people who are found sleeping to ensure they are not experiencing a medical emergency and so they can secure their belongings.
  - o. Shaving, laundering, bathing in restrooms or using the restroom facilities for any other purpose other than for which they are intended is prohibited.
  - p. Pervasive odors disruptive to library use are prohibited.
  - q. Theft or disturbing the belongings of others.
  - r. Voyeurism, peeping, sexual activity.
  - s. Any other activity which interferes with another person's right to use the library or with the library staff's performance of their duties.
6. The library reserves the right to temporarily prohibit any food or drink, at the discretion of the library director.
- a. Beverages in lidded containers are permitted in the library.
  - b. Snack foods, are permitted. Patrons are responsible for throwing away all trash and maintaining a clean area.
  - c. Messy foods, meals, foods with a strong odor are not permitted.
7. Only service animals recognized by the Americans with Disabilities act are permitted. Animals must be under the control of the handler at all times. The library may include animals in library programs.
8. Only staff, volunteers, or other authorized persons are permitted in library work areas.
9. Failure to abide by City of Sanger and Library guidelines and/or staff's instruction may result in revocation of Library privileges, expulsion from the library, criminal trespass or criminal

prosecution. Library staff is authorized to enforce the loss of Library privileges and/or ask the offending party to leave the premises. The Library Director is authorized to revoke or limit library privileges, issue criminal trespass warnings or pursue criminal prosecution.