

Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library Policy on Teen Room Usage

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees 12/08/2016

The Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library is committed to serving its teen and tween patrons by providing a separate and designated space in which they can hang out that is safe and inviting.

Usage

The Teen Hangout is for patrons between the ages of 11 and 17 only. Adults and children will be asked by library staff to use the facilities, services, and equipment in the appropriate sections of the library.

- In certain circumstances, a teen may be accompanied by an assisting adult (i.e. case worker or interpreter), with the presentation of proof of BCI.
 - Assisting adults who are granted permission to enter the teen room must:
 - Stay accompanied with their client.
 - Not interact with the other teens and tweens in the teen room.

Library staff are available to be a resource for teens, but cannot assume responsibility for a teens in the absence of a parent or guardian.

Teens are allowed to come and go from the teen hangout as they please, any time during the teen hangout hours.

Behavior

Teens shall respect each other, library staff and other patrons, both verbally and physically.

Harmful or disruptive behavior is prohibited, including:

- Roughhousing.
- Running.
- Hitting or other forms of physical harm.
- Spitting or other unsanitary behavior.
- Displays of public affection that are deemed disruptive.
- Swearing or otherwise abusive and disruptive language.

Bullying will not be tolerated.

Furniture is to be used appropriately (do not sit on tables or windowsills, only one person per chair, etc).

No taking pictures or videotaping of anyone without their permission.

Teens shall not damage library material, equipment or furniture.

No illegal drugs, alcohol, or smoking or other illegal activity on library property.

For more information on expected behaviors in the library, please refer to the library's policy on Safety and Disruptive behavior.

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Food and Drink

Food is limited to snacks and should be eaten in the teen room only. Messy foods and foods creating strong odors are prohibited. Food and drinks are not allowed at the computers. All trash must be disposed of after eating in the trash cans provided. Library staff may relinquish eating and computer privileges at any time if directives are not followed.

Technology

Computers are available in the teen room during Teen Hangout hours. Volume on the computers must be kept at a reasonable level. For policies regarding the computer and internet usage, please refer to the library's internet policy.

The Jesse M. Smith Memorial Library provides a Wii gaming system for public use. The system is available for patrons ages 11-17 during the Teen Hangout hours. Games are chosen on a first come first serve basis and subject to a 30 minute time limit if there are those waiting to use the console.

Only staff members may handle the gaming console, and the TV/projector. Controllers should be placed on charger when not in use. Volume on the TV must be changed and maintained only by library staff. Library staff may shut the system off for the day or forbid a patron from using the system if necessary to maintain an appropriate noise level.