

Safe Use Code

Purpose

Everyone is welcome at the Library. The Library provides equitable access to a wide range of library services and comfortable surroundings.

The Safe Use Code is to ensure the safety of public and staff, to prevent disruptions to library services and to maintain the security of Library property. Staff make every effort to apply these rules in a fair, dignified and positive manner for the benefit of all.

Policy

The Library will not tolerate the following of any individual(s):

- Excessive noise
- Harassment (sexual, verbal or physical)
- Vandalism and theft
- Smoking
- Substance abuse or intoxication
- Criminal activity
- Weapons

The Library's facilities are for quiet enjoyment. Disruptive behaviours and activities are considered unacceptable and the following prohibitions exist for the comfortable and safe use of these facilities by all.

- Shirts and shoes must be worn.
- Rollerblades, skateboards and bicycles are not to be used in the Library. Vehicles may not be parked in unauthorized areas outside or inside the Library.
- Loitering on Library property is not permitted.
- Animals are not permitted in the Library. This prohibition does not apply to service animals trained to assist disabled individuals or animals in Library approved programs.
- Library materials may not be taken into washrooms.
- The consumption of food and beverages is permitted only in designated areas.
- Photographing, filming or videotaping in the Library must be authorized by a person in charge. Permission for use of such photographs, films or videotapes must be obtained from any member of the public or staff who appear in them.
- Cell phone use must be limited to the foyer, concourse or meeting rooms.

- Parents or guardians are responsible for the supervision of their children. If a child is left unattended in the library, an attempt will be made to call the parents or guardians. If they are unavailable, the police will be called. For more information, please read the Unattended Children Policy.
- The Library is not responsible for any items left unattended in the library. The Library will dispose or donate any items left behind.
- Customers may be required to make available for inspections all bags and carrying cases.
- Canvassing or soliciting is not permitted on Library property.
- Only Kitchener Public Library staff or volunteers are allowed in designated staff areas.
- Customers must comply with the appropriate use of the Internet and its resources as outlined in the Internet Access Policy.
- Any violation of this Code may result in cost-recovery charges, suspension of Library privileges, exclusion from the Library and prosecution.