

Norwell Public Library Teen Room Policy

The Norwell Public Library's Teen Room is intended for use by students in grades 6-12. Other individuals are welcome to visit the Teen Room briefly to retrieve books and other library materials or to request assistance from staff working in that space. Parents, guardians, and younger siblings are welcome in the Teen Room when accompanied by their teen. The Teen Room represents the Library's effort to ensure that the local middle and high school students have a place that is safe, relaxing, and responsive to their library needs and interests. For this reason, use of the space, including the furniture and computers will be held exclusively for teenagers. The Teen Room is not an appropriate space for tutoring.

Mission Statement:

The Teen Room is a dedicated area that provides access to materials, resources and professional guidance to meet the intellectual, educational and recreational needs of teens, grades 6-12.

Purpose:

- The library offers programs and services that encourage teens to develop a love of the library, books, reading, recreation and learning.
- The Young Adult Library Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association, recognizes teens as patrons 12 to 18 years old.
- The Norwell Public Library strives to create a safe and inviting environment for its teen patrons.
- In keeping with the above Mission Statement, adults may be asked by library staff to use the adult section of the library.

Details:

- This policy is in place to provide a safe and welcoming environment for teens.
- The Teen Room at the Norwell Public Library is for students in grades 6-12.
- The library recognizes that some families homeschool their children. Homeschooled patrons are encouraged to take advantage of the Teen Room for studying, accessing computers and utilizing the collection.
- While patrons of all ages are welcome to browse and check out materials from the Teen Room collection, the use of computers, tables and chairs within this room is exclusively for the use of students in grades 6-12.
- Parents or caregivers may be in the Teen Room with their teens.
- The Teen Room is reserved for teens and those who accompany them. Adults over the age of 18 not accompanying a teen may be asked to leave the teen area at any time.
- The Teen Room is not an appropriate space for tutoring.

Patron Computer and Internet Usage:

· A library card is required for use of materials and computers. Temporary guest passes are available. Please see a library staff member for details. [See Internet Use Policy.](#)

Behavior:

· The design of our library dictates common sense with regard to noise. Teens are expected to adhere to all the rules stated in our [Appropriate Library Use Policy.](#)

· Covered beverages are allowed in the Teen Room but may not be near the computers or book shelf areas at any time. Patrons must keep the area free of trash, spills and wrappers.

· Cell phone usage is permitted at an appropriate volume and should not disturb other patrons. Phone calls should be kept brief; speaker phone and video calls are not allowed. Patrons may be asked to decrease volume or take phone calls elsewhere at the discretion of the library staff.

Approved by NPL Board of Trustees 12/14/21