

Sharing the Library Policy Wellfleet Public Library

The Wellfleet Public Library is for everyone. The Board of Trustees have established the following guidelines to manage expectations and to allow for the best possible Library experiences for all.

1. Pursuant to G.L. c.78, §11, the Library Board of Trustees has the authority, to establish rules for custody and maintenance of the Library. The Board establishes this policy to set expectations and establish rules for the use of the Library.
2. Sometimes the Library can be noisy, and sometimes it is quiet. It is *usually* most quiet midday, when school is in session, and in the evenings.
3. Everyone, including families with young children, are welcome at the Library.
4. The modern public library is a busy community space as well as a place for traditional library pursuits. Quiet conversation and group study are permitted in all areas of the building. Should this become a problem for you, we suggest the following:
 - Headphones (we have headphones for you to borrow if you need them)
 - Move to another area of the Library
 - Use the Library at a quieter time of day
 - Reserve our conference room (talk to a staff member for assistance doing so).
5. Where possible, help others who are trying to sit quietly by having social conversations away from Library patrons who are engaged in reading, work, computer use, and study.
6. Please avoid speaking loudly on mobile phones.
7. We request that parents accompany children under the age of nine (9) at all times when in the Library.
8. Harassment of Library staff or other patrons will not be tolerated. This includes verbal and/or physical harassment.
9. In order to provide a space for all patrons to enjoy the Library and exercise their First Amendment rights of reading, writing, and quiet contemplation at the Library, Library staff may ask you to leave if your actions materially disrupt other patrons or staff. This includes harassing conduct or other threatening behavior. If you do not comply with staff's request to cease the behavior at issue, the staff may direct you to leave the Library and/or contact the Wellfleet Police Department.

Adopted by the Wellfleet Library Board of Trustees October 16th, 2023.
Amended on March 11, 2024