

Armoral Tuttle Public Library Policy

Patron Behavior

The Patron Behavior Policy is for the comfort and protection of all. It expresses the roles and responsibilities patrons and staff have to ensure the library's physical and virtual spaces are welcoming, safe, and secure.

Roles and Responsibilities

Each patron has a personal responsibility to ensure that Armoral Tuttle Public Library is a welcoming public library environment for all.

Patrons are participants in a shared, public-use environment and must conduct themselves accordingly. Patrons are expected to be courteous, considerate, and understanding of library patrons and staff.

Parents and caregivers are responsible for supervising the activities and choices of their charges.

Patrons are stewards of the library and its resources. They are expected to value and respect library resources and conduct themselves in a safe and orderly way.

Patrons are expected to comply with federal, state, and local laws and policies.

No one shall engage in behaviors that are contrary to the principles, roles, and responsibilities defined in this policy.

Library staff will work to ensure that library spaces are safe and welcoming to all. Staff will work with individuals or groups to ensure compliance with the policy.

Patrons are expected to

- Understand that the library is a public place shared by many.
- Avoid disruptive behaviors that may hinder other library patron's use of the library.
- Be courteous and respect other library patrons and staff.
- Conduct themselves in a safe and orderly way; allowing others to do the same.
- Attend to children in their care, keep them safe, and pick them up before the library closes.
- Respect library property.

- Safeguard personal items.
- Comply with all federal, state, and local laws.
- Follow Armorial Tuttle Public Library policies

The following examples are provided in this administrative policy as a way to illustrate ways in which a patron's conduct would violate the responsibilities defined in the Library Board policy. The examples are intended to guide staff decision-making. It does not presume to be a complete list.

Patrons are participants in a shared, public-use environment and must conduct themselves accordingly. They are expected to be courteous, considerate, and understanding of library patrons and staff. Examples of conduct that would violate this principle:

- Discrimination based on an individual's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, gender, age, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or public assistance status.
- Harassment, including sexual and racial harassment.
- Behavior that is abusive, bullying, intimidating, or disrespectful including obscene, racially charged, or abusive language.
- Conversation that is disruptive to other patrons, including personal phone calls.
- Disruptive behavior such as fighting, running, excessive noisemaking.
- Offensive body odor, including excessive scent, which unreasonably interferes with other patrons' ability to use the library and its services.
- Sleeping in the library could impede others from using spaces or resources.

Parents and caregivers are responsible for supervising the activities and choices of their charges. Example of conduct that would violate this principle:

- Leaving vulnerable adults or vulnerable children unattended or alone in the library. (Refer to the Vulnerable Adult Policy and the Unattended Child Policy)

Patrons are stewards of the library and its resources. They are expected to value and respect library resources and conduct themselves in a safe and orderly way.

Examples of conduct that would violate this principle:

- Defacing, damaging, or destroying library property.
- Consuming food or beverages except in designated areas
- Use of library furniture, power cords for personal electronic devices or sports equipment, such as skateboards, that create a physical hazard for others.

Patrons are expected to comply with federal, state, and local laws and policies.

Examples of conduct that would violate this principle:

- Panhandling or soliciting.

- The possession of a firearm or deadly weapon (as defined by Idaho Code) on library property unless expressly permitted by law.
- Consuming alcoholic beverages or controlled substances.
- Being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances in a manner that causes a public disturbance.
- Smoking, chewing tobacco, use of e-cigarettes or vaping.
- Possession of animals or pets in the library except as part of an authorized library program or legally defined service animals.
- Infringement of copyright laws including illegal downloads of copyrighted material.

Staff Responsibilities

Staff play an important role in ensuring that Armoral Tuttle Public Library is a welcoming public library environment for all.

Staff are expected to

- Ensure a person's right to use the library is not denied or abridged because of origin, age, background, or views.
- Support the rights of all individuals to use the library without discrimination.
- Provide friendly, courteous and respectful service.
- Provide a clean, comfortable and pleasant environment.
- Insure patrons may use the library undisturbed without threat of harm, invasion of property, or interference.

When there is a possible violation of this policy staff are expected to

- Weigh the degree of disruptive conduct with the onsite conditions at the time.
- Exercise their best judgment in determining conduct that violates the Patron Behavior Policy and in determining the correct course of action.
- Explain the Patron Behavior Policy to patrons.
- Request that patrons conduct themselves in a way that is necessary to maintain a welcoming public library environment.
- Follow the Policy Violation Policy to enforce the Patron Behavior Policy
- Seek assistance from Payette County Sheriff's Department to resolve ongoing or escalating patron conduct issues.