

## PATRON BEHAVIOR POLICY

The Board of Trustees believes that the patrons of the Galway Public Library have the right to use library materials and services without being disturbed or impeded by others, that patrons and staff have the right to a safe environment and to materials and facilities that are in good condition.

### **A. CONDUCT**

Patrons shall be engaged in activities associated with the use of a public library or preapproved by the library. All patrons are expected to observe and respect the rights of other library users and staff. If a patron's conduct is disruptive to library operations and other patrons' use of the library, that patron may have their privilege of library use denied until the problem is resolved.

Appeal: Anyone wishing to appeal their denial of library services may submit an appeal in writing to the Director. This appeal will be presented to the Board of Trustees and voted upon.

### **Children:**

Adequate supervision of children is necessary to ensure the safety and comfort of all persons using the library and the good condition of the library and its contents.

Except at adequately supervised library programs, no child under the age of ten (10) shall be allowed to remain in the library unless he/she is supervised by an older responsible sibling or adult that is not scheduled to work at the library.

The Library will assume no responsibility for any child left unattended. Those supervising young children will be expected to control their charges and eliminate running, fighting, or inappropriate behavior. If such behavior is not controlled, the individual or group will be invited to leave.

Children age 10 and over may use the library subject to all general rules of conduct applied to all library patrons.

### **B. FOOD**

Patrons are permitted to drink only water from closeable containers in the main collection area and in the Conference Room. Food and other drinks are not allowed in the main collection area nor in the Conference Room unless the Director permits it for a program. Food and drink are allowed in the Program Room and foyer during programs or open houses at the discretion of the Director. The person in charge shall supervise any eating or drinking and see that residue is handled appropriately.

**C. TOBACCO, ALCOHOL, OTHER SUBSTANCES**

The library is a tobacco-free and drug-free facility; the use of alcohol, any tobacco product, or any illegal substance by patrons or staff is absolutely prohibited in the library or on library property.

**D. ANIMALS**

No animals shall be allowed in the library with the exception of those which assist persons with disabilities or those brought in by staff for special programs. No one shall affix an animal's lead to any outside portion of the library or yard while utilizing the library.

Revised 4/13/99; 4/17/13; 12/23/22; and 3/15/23