

Trenton Free Public Library

Young Adult Lounge Policy

Policy Statement 1

The Trenton Free Public Library is committed to providing an inviting and safe community space for teenage patrons to engage in individual and group activities. In order to accommodate the social nature and unique characteristics of this age group, the library has dedicated a separate “Young Adult Lounge” within the library building.

Regulations

1.1 The Young Adult Lounge is for patrons from 13 through 17 years of age, or anyone still enrolled in a High School Program.

1.2 While patrons of all ages are welcome to browse and check out materials from the Young Adult Collection, the use of computers, television, video games and other equipment within this room is exclusively for the use of students from ages 13 through 17. Certain Young Adult resources and equipment may be shared with other library departments at the discretion of the Director, the Youth Services Librarian, the Young Adult Library Associate, or the Children’s Library Associate.

1.3 Parents or caregivers may be in the Young Adult Lounge with their child, if the child is between 13 and 17 years of age. Adults not accompanied by a teen may visit the Young Adult Lounge to access the collection on their behalf. Otherwise, adult patrons must use designated adult spaces.

1.4 The Library reserves the right to utilize the Young Adult Lounge for scheduled programs, events, and gaming activities. The Library also reserves the right to set age limits and/or to require registration for any programs, events, and gaming activities.

Policy Statement 2

Teens are expected to respect the overall Library environment and comply with the Library’s General Rules and Regulations Policy. The library reserves the right to limit the use of the library by teens who, in the judgment of the library staff, are infringing upon the rights of other library users by inappropriate behavior.

Regulations

2.1 Teens and young adults shall respect each other, library staff and other patrons in word and action.

2.2 The following behaviors are not permitted:

- Verbal or physical abuse of staff or patrons
- Cursing
- Rude or demeaning comments
- Abusive language
- Racist, sexist, or homophobic language
- Talking back to library staff or patrons
- Teasing or bullying
- Rough housing
- Running
- Public displays of affection

2.3 Any behavior considered aggressive by the staff may result in the police being notified and further actions may be taken.

2.4 Vandalism, theft or damage of library property or to library grounds is a legal matter and the police will be notified.

2.6 Food and beverages are not allowed in the YA Lounge. Any food brought into the library must be consumed in the Poetry Café on the first floor.

Policy Statement 3

The Library is committed to providing teens and young adults with resources for both educational and recreational needs and recognizes the vital role that computers and the internet play in their lives. To support those needs the Young Adult Lounge is equipped with computers with internet access, video gaming systems, a 3D printer and other technologies.

Regulations

3.1 The use of the computers in the Young Adult Lounge is restricted to patrons from 13 through 17 years of age. No exceptions will be made for library patrons whose age falls outside this range, except for persons still enrolled in high school that provide proof of enrollment.

3.2 Use of the computers in the Young Adult Lounge constitutes agreement to abide by the Library's Internet Use Policy.

3.3 The Library has two wheelchair accessible computer stations. These stations are dedicated for use by teen patrons using wheelchairs or with reduced mobility. These computers may be used by teens without mobility issues only if all of the computers on the computer counter are in use. Teens without mobility issues may be asked to leave the wheelchair accessible computer stations if a teen in a wheelchair or with reduced mobility requests to use the computers.

3.4 Use of the 3D printer in the Young Adult Lounge constitutes agreement to abide by the Library's 3D Printer Policy.

3.5 All equipment must be handled with care and used only for its intended purpose. Users may not mishandle, damage, deface, or misuse any equipment in the Young Adult Lounge.

Enforcement

Teens and young adults in violation of the Young Adult Room Policy, the General Rules and

Regulations Policy, the Internet Use Policy, or the 3D Printer Policy will be given a warning.

Repeated violations of the same policy or extreme misconduct including, but not limited to physical or verbal aggression towards other patrons or staff, theft, or attempted theft, may result in the police being notified and an immediate temporary or permanent loss of library privileges.

Approved by the Library Board of Trustees January 9, 2020