**ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR POLICY**

**THE GLOUCESTER LYCEUM AND SAWYER FREE LIBRARY**

This policy is designed to promote the library’s mission to provide services, programs and materials that enrich people’s lives, foster a love of reading, and provide access to information. Use of the library requires respect for others who are also enjoying the library’s facilities and services. To provide a standard of acceptable behavior that is conducive to maintaining a respectful atmosphere in the library, including the Children’s and Teen Areas, and on its grounds, the following behaviors will not be allowed:

• Physically abusing or assaulting another person

• Using threatening or profane language to a person

• Creating a disturbance by shouting, running, or other disruptive conduct

* Making unwanted sexual advances or other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature

• Smoking or vaping

• Possessing, consuming, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs

• Extended sleeping

• Having pets in the library.

* Exception: any type of service animal that is leashed, or otherwise under control, by the owner.

• Engaging in improper acts that are subject to prosecution or liability under criminal or civil codes of the law

• More than one person at a time in a rest room stall.

* Exception: persons requiring assistance

 • Destroying or defacing library buildings, property, or materials

• Soliciting or canvassing of any kind

• Using audible devices without headphones or with headphones set at a volume that disturbs others

• Using cell phones, pagers, and other communication devices in a manner that disturbs others

• Using wheeled devices within the library building (e.g. skateboards, roller-skates, scooters, and bicycles).

* Exceptions: wheelchairs, walkers, strollers and any assistive devices for mobility impairments

• Carrying firearms and dangerous weapons of any type.

* Exception: law enforcement officers

• Creating/using any kind of open flame

• Viewing pornography or other disturbing images on computer screens

* Violating COVID-19 preventative measures and controls

**The enforcement of this policy shall be carried out at the discretion of the library staff. Persons refusing to comply with this policy may be asked to leave the library for a period of time based on the severity of the behavior.**

Amendments approved by the Board of Trustees October 27, 2020; March 22, 2022; December 15, 2022.