It is the policy of the Rockingham County Public Library to offer the full range of library service to all residents of the community, regardless of age, sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion, economic status, etc.

Library users and staff have a right to assume that visits to the library will be free from harassment; free from physical discomfort and danger; free from psychological or emotional stress.

(See County Policy Violence in the Workplace Policy 1001)

To assure the successful implementation of this policy, the Board considers the following to be unacceptable behavior:

1. Loud conversations or laughter, which is disturbing to other users.
2. Obscene or abusive language.
3. Use of electronic devices without using headphones, so that others hear the sound.
4. Wilful destruction of or damage to any library property.
5. Blocking or in any way interfering with the free movement of any person or persons.
6. Bringing animals other than Service animals as outlined by G.S. 168 Article 1 into the building.
7. Consumption of or possession of alcoholic beverages.
8. Removal of any library property from the building without authorization through established lending procedures.
9. Soliciting or selling of any kind.
10. Distribution of leaflets or posting of notices in areas not authorized for this purpose.
11. Use of library telephones by any person other than library personnel unless approved.
12. Consumption of food or beverages brought into the building by individuals.
13. Sleeping on Library property.
14. Following staff or users around the building, or other harassing behavior such as staring or other intimidating acts.
15. Rearranging of any library furniture or equipment from one location to another.
16. Engaging in disorderly conduct, committing a nuisance, or unreasonably disturbing and offending library users.
17. Openly carrying a weapon
18. Lewd and lascivious behavior.
19. Any use of drugs or drug paraphernalia on library property.
20. Smoking in library buildings or within 50 feet of entrance areas.
21. Entering the library without a shirt and/or shoes.

NORTH CAROLINA LAWS PERTAINING TO THE MODEL DISRUPTIVE BEHAVIOR POLICY:

G.S. 14-33 Misdemeanor assaults, batteries and affrays.
G.S. 14-76 Larceny, mutilation, or destruction of public records and papers.
G.S. 14-127 Willful and wanton injury to real property.
G.S. 14-132 Disorderly conduct in and injuries to public buildings and facilities.
G.S. 14-134 Trespass on land after being forbidden.
G.S. 14-190.9 Indecent exposure.
G.S. 14-204.1 Loitering for the purpose of engaging in prostitution offense.
G.S. 14-269 Carrying concealed weapons.
G.S. 14-277.1 Communicating threats.
G.S. 14-398 Theft or destruction of property of public libraries, museums, etc.
G.S. 168 Article I

Librarians should also be familiar with applicable local ordinances.

Violations of the Library’s Code of Conduct Policy will be considered serious offenses and dealt with accordingly.