

Teen Behavioral Policy

The Gadsden Public Library encourages all teens to use our facilities and services. The GPL is dedicated to providing access to materials, resources, and professional guidance to meet the intellectual, educational, and recreational needs of teens and all library patrons. The Teen Zone encourages exploration and creativity; however, disruptive behavior is not tolerated in any form by any patron. Teen patrons are expected to: be courteous and respectful to fellow students and adults at all times, behave properly in speech and action, and be responsible for their own behavior accepting the consequences for inappropriate behavior.

Level 1 Teen Zone Violations

First Offense – Violators will be removed from the library for the remainder of the day.
Second Offense – Violators will be unable to use the library for the period of one week.
Third and Final Offense – Violators will be unable to use the library without a parent and/or guardian.

Violations

- **Disrespect to library staff**
- **Refusal to identify himself/herself upon request of any staff, security, or other library personnel**
- **Intimidation of a teen or staff member**
- **Behavior that interferes with library services**
- **Derogatory statements, comments or words.**
- **Speech or other expressions (written, electronic or gestures) intended to insult or stigmatize others on the basis of their sex, race, color, disability, religion, sexual orientation or national and ethnic origin**
- **Threats/extortion/harassment/bullying/sexual innuendo**
- **Engaging in any act that is deemed harmful, including acts of aggression even when intentioned to be practical jokes**
- **Profane Language**
- **Clothing with derogatory statements or promoting drugs, alcohol or sex**
- **Physical Contact of ANY kind**
- **Loitering (Unaccompanied teens must be legitimately using library services. The GPL Teen Zone is not a sitting service. The library will not be responsible for unaccompanied minors.)**

GPL staff will not be responsible for determining which member of a group is perpetrating unacceptable behavior. All members of the offending group will be treated equally. Teens who see offensive behavior within their group are expected to remove themselves from the offender so as not to be unfairly punished.

Level 2 Teen Zone Violations

Any violator will be banned from the Gadsden Public Library until otherwise decided by Library Administration.

- **Fighting**
- **Theft**
- **Possession of a weapon**
- **Possession of drugs, alcohol or tobacco products**
- **Vandalism/property damage**

I, _____, have read each of the Teen Zone Violations Level 1 and 2. I understand that if I violate any of the Teen Zone Violations described to me above, I will face the consequences accordingly. I accept the policies before me and agree to be responsible for correct library behavior.

Print Name

Date

Library Card Number

Print Guardian Name

Guardian Contact Number