

NEW BEDFORD FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

TEEN ROOM POLICY

Purpose

The New Bedford Free Public Library offers Teen Rooms located at the Howland-Green and Lawler Branch intended for use by students in grades 6-12 during the hours the branch is open.

The Teen Rooms represent the Library's mission to provide free and equal access to materials and technology to ensure New Bedford's teens have a place that is safe and responsive to their needs and interests. For this reason, use of the space, including the furniture and computers will be held exclusively for teenagers.

While patrons of all ages are welcome to browse and check out materials from the Teen Room collection, the use of computers, television, other electronic equipment and other standalone activities within this room is exclusively for the use of students in the 6th – 12th grade. **Parents, guardians and younger siblings are welcome in the Teen Rooms when accompanied by their teen.**

Mentors and tutors are welcome to work with adolescents under their responsibility in the Teen Room. Adults not accompanied by a teen may be asked to leave the teen area at any time.

Teens have the right to privacy and confidentiality in accordance with the principles expressed in the American Library Association's Statement of Professional Ethics and Massachusetts State Laws regarding confidentiality.

Adopted by the Board of Trustees

November 26, 2019