

DeKalb Public Library Teen Corridor Policy

The DeKalb Public Library's Teen Corridor consists of the Teen Room and the Teen Area. Together these form a dedicated space for teen patrons with the intention of providing a safe, supportive, and positive place for them to use library resources, attend programs, and socialize in a welcoming and friendly environment.

Approved by the DeKalb Public Library Board of Trustees 07/2021

DeKalb Public Library Teen Corridor Procedures

- Patrons currently enrolled or rising to grades 6-12 are considered teens, and are encouraged to use the Teen Corridor.
- At times the Teen Corridor may be reserved solely for teens, and use by non-teen patrons other than to retrieve materials or access other areas of the Library is not permitted. During those times staff may ask unaccompanied adults or children to leave the Teen Area and direct them to use the facilities, services, and equipment elsewhere in the Library.
- The Teen Room is reserved for Library programming. The majority of this programming is restricted to use by teen patrons, and adults or younger children may not register for or attend these programs. Occasionally other Library programming will utilize the space, in which cases the appropriate age of attendees will be clearly marked on all marketing associated with the program. Teens are encouraged to participate in library programs designed for teens and adults.
- Teen study rooms are available for teens during Teen Room Open Hours. . Teens may also reserve Adult study rooms.
- The Teen Corridor is a designated eating area, and covered drinks and non-messy, odor-free snacks may be eaten there. Food and drinks must not be used near computers or other Library equipment. Patrons must keep food in the Teen Corridor or other designated areas within the Library. Patrons must also clean up any messes made. The Library reserves the right to restrict patrons from eating in the Library at its discretion.

Library equipment, including computers, video games, and chargers are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Teens wishing to use library equipment must register with Teen Staff using their library card or by signing in to their Skyward account. Use is ordinarily limited to 30 minutes per session. All equipment, including tablets and video games, must remain in the Teen Corridor.

- Video game sessions are considered to be public, and any teen may join in any ongoing game as circumstances allow.
- Only Library-approved games may be played on Library equipment. Patrons may request consideration for additional games by Teen staff. Until written permission from Teen staff is provided, the game cannot be played using Library equipment. Staff may ask patrons playing unapproved games on non-Library equipment to stop if such games are providing a distraction from Library activities.
- Tablets and video game materials must be returned 15 minutes before the Library closes. Staff is not responsible for any unsaved work.
- The Teen Area is immediately adjacent to several general areas of the Library that are used for quiet study. Teen patrons are expected to be respectful of other Library patrons, and to conduct themselves according to the Library's Code of Conduct. Loud talking, playing music or videos, and other disruptive activities are allowed only in the Teen Room, not the Teen Area, and only at the discretion of Teen Staff. Patrons are expected to keep low conversational levels and use headphones for music or video while using the seating areas near the adult computer lab.