

Manhasset Public Library Internet Use Policy

The Library provides free and open access to a broad spectrum of materials, programs, and services. The Library is committed to the principles of intellectual freedom in providing freely and equally to all members of the community resources whose contents span the panorama of human thought and experience.

The Library does not monitor and has no control over the information accessed through the Internet, and cannot guarantee the content, quality, or accuracy of information transmitted. Any patron who enters a fee-based service must incur any and all charges involved in the transaction. Restriction of a child's access to the Internet is the responsibility of the parent or legal guardian. Parents, guardians or care-givers are encouraged to actively participate with their children when using the Internet or other electronic resources, and to provide guidance for their usage.

Responsibilities of Library Staff and Users

Library staff will not monitor a user's Internet use, except for length of use in order to ensure equal opportunity of access for everyone. The user, or parent or legal guardian of a minor, is responsible for his/her/their Internet sessions at all times.

Public computer users are expected to:

- Respect the computers and computer systems and not interfere with or disrupt network users, services, programs, software or equipment.
- Respect the legal protection provided by copyright and license laws.
- Not transmit or access obscene (as defined by Federal or State laws) or threatening materials.
- Abide by New York State Penal Law §245.11 which prohibits "the public display of offensive sexual material."
- The Library reserves the right to remove the privilege of anyone who tampers with or damages the equipment or programs or who engages in activities specifically prohibited by this policy statement.

Disclaimers

While the Library endeavors to provide access to information of the highest quality, it does not endorse or sanction the content or point of view of any information or commentary found on the Internet. The Library specifically disclaims any warranties as to the information's accuracy, timeliness, authoritativeness, usefulness or fitness for a particular purpose.

Privacy

The Library's computers are not private. Users should have no expectation of privacy as all computer workstations and printers are in view of other patrons and staff. Users engaging in financial transactions or other activities that require confidentiality do so at their own risk.

Supervising Children's Use

The Library and its staff do not and cannot act in the place of parents in providing supervision of children as they explore the Internet and other electronic devices. Parents or legal guardians assume all responsibility for deciding which Library resources are appropriate for their own children. Parents or legal guardians should guide their children in the use of the Internet and inform them about materials they should not use. While the Library affirms the responsibilities of parents and guardians to monitor and determine their children's access to Library materials and resources, including those available through computers, Librarians are available to guide and assist children and caregivers to age appropriate resources via the Library's website and resources.

Response to Violations

The Library reserves the right to terminate an Internet session that disrupts library services or that involves user behavior that violates the Library's policies.

Failure to comply with this policy and its procedures will result in the forfeiture of the user's right to access these computers and where appropriate, referral to law enforcement authorities.

Pending Board approval February, 2022