Benbrook Public Library Teen Room Policy

The Benbrook Public Library provides a designated area for youth ages twelve (12) through seventeen (17). Because of the unique needs of this population, special considerations are given that differ from the policies enforced in the other public spaces of the Benbrook Public Library. Adults and children under 12 may browse in the stacks of the teen area to look for items, but may not work, play, or sit in the area. Youth ages 10 and 11 may visit the area with the invitation of a teen “sponsor”. The teen sponsor will be expected to vouch for the youth’s behavior and both will be asked to leave if the younger person cannot follow the rules. Youth between the ages of thirteen (13) through seventeen (17) may act as sponsors. The teen to youth sponsor ratio will be 1:1.

Behavior
All the rules of the Benbrook Public Library apply to the patrons of this area. Anyone not following these rules or the directives of staff members will be asked to leave the teen room. If a youth is asked to leave the teen room more than two times in a week they may not be allowed back into the room the following week. Please respect the room, respect others, and respect yourself.

Computers
More than one user is allowed to be present at each teen computer and talking is allowed if kept at a reasonable volume. No food or drink of any kind is allowed at the computers.

Food and Drink
Food is limited to snacks and should be eaten in the teen room only. Full meals and foods creating strong odors are prohibited. All trash must be disposed of after eating in the trash cans provided. Library staff may relinquish eating and computer privileges at any time if directives are not followed.

Video Games
The Benbrook Public Library provides a X-Box Kinect gaming system for public use. The system is available for patrons ages 12-17 during the hours the library is open. Games are chosen on a first come first serve basis and subject to a 30 minute time limit enforced by librarian discretion.

Only staff members may handle games, the gaming console, and the TV. Controllers should be placed in designated container when not in use. Volume on the TV must be muted and no loud voices or yelling is allowed. Library staff may shut the system off for the day or forbid a patron from using the system if necessary to maintain an appropriate noise level.

Please be considerate so everyone can enjoy their visit to the Library!

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