

Teen Room Policy

Teen Room Purpose:

The Sparta Free Library is dedicated to providing a welcoming and safe space for teen patrons. The space is meant to contribute to a sense of teen belonging, community involvement, and library appreciation.

Teen Room Regulations:

- I. The Sparta Free Library's Teen Room is designed for use by students in grades 6 – 12. Other library visitors are welcome to visit the Teen Room briefly to browse and check out materials from the young adult collections.
- II. Teens have unique social and developmental needs and the Teen Room is meant to ensure the safety and well-being of teens in the library. With particular interest in encouraging teen ownership and responsibility, use of the Teen Room space, including the furniture and computers will be held exclusively for teenagers.
- III. The library recognizes that some families homeschool their children. Homeschool students in grades 6 – 12 are encouraged to take advantage of the Teen Room for studying, accessing computers, and utilizing the collections.
- IV. The Teen Room is not an appropriate space for tutoring, unless it is peer, teen-to-teen tutoring.
- V. All library policies are in effect in the Teen Room.

Reasonable Accommodation:

Should a teen require adult assistance to utilize the Teen Room space, an adult caregiver* may be accommodated. Due to standard Teen Room Regulations regarding adults in the Teen Room space, adult caregivers seeking accommodation should notify library staff prior to Teen Room use.

*The term adult caregiver shall be defined as a person having significant responsibility for managing the behavior and/or well-being of another individual with a documented disability or medical condition.

Policies/Documents referenced during creation:

YALSA National Teen Space Guidelines
Cary Memorial Library Teen Room Usage Statement
West Springfield Public Library Teen Room Young Adult Policy
Bedford Public Library Teen Room Policy

Approved by Library Board August 6, 2018