**Internet and Computer Policy**

In response to advances in technology and the changing needs of the community, The Wynnewood Public Library endeavors to develop collections, resources, and services that meet the cultural, informational, recreational, and educational needs of our community. It is within this context the library offers access to the Internet. All Internet resources accessible through the library are provided equally to all users, with the understanding that it is the individual user’s responsibility to demonstrate judgment, respect for others, and appropriate conduct while using public library resources and facilities.

**Internet Disclaimer and Children's Use of the Internet**

The Internet is a global entity with a highly diverse user population. It is also an unregulated medium. While it enables access to a wealth of information that is personally, professionally, and educationally enriching, it also opens doors to materials that may be offensive, disturbing, false and/or illegal. Since not all sources on the Internet provide accurate, complete, or current information, become a good information consumer. Evaluate Internet sources, questioning the validity of its content.

The library does not monitor and has no control over information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. The Internet and its available resources may contain material of controversial or mature nature. While the library uses Internet filtering software to block access to inappropriate sites that are obscene, or harmful to minors, it does not monitor and has no control over information accessed through the Internet and cannot be held responsible for its content. Library users access the Internet at their own discretion and they are solely responsible for any access points they reach.

Parents and guardians of minor children, not the library or staff, are responsible for their child’s use of the Internet through the library’s connection. Parents may wish to supervise their child’s Internet sessions.

**Staff Assistance**

Due to limited staff the library cannot always provide individual or in-depth training concerning Internet, computer jargon, or personal computer use. Staff cannot handle financial or tax transactions for patrons.

**Internet Use**

Internet computers may not be used by anyone, including minors, for illegal activity, to access illegal materials, or to access materials that by local community standards would be obscene. Library employees are authorized to take prompt and appropriate actions to enforce the Rules of Conduct, and/or prohibit use by persons who fail to comply with the Internet and Computer Use Policy as stated or implied herein. Parents are responsible for their children’s use of the library’s resources and facilities. Parents who believe their children cannot responsibly use the library’s Internet access are requested to monitor their children’s Internet use.

**Cyberbullying**

Cyberbullying is defined as bullying or harassment that happens online. It can be in the form of an email, text message, game, chat room, or on a social networking site. The library has zero tolerance for cyberbullying. Anyone using library computers in violation of this policy shall lose all computer privileges.

**Rules of Conduct**

Patrons ages 8+ are welcome to use the computers. Children under the age of 18 must have a permission slip signed by a guardian giving them express permission to use the library computers and agreeing to follow the rules herein for Internet Use. Internet and computer use is free. However, prompt payment is required by users who incur charges for printing, or willful damage to equipment. Unless otherwise authorized by the librarian in charge, access sessions will be limited to one hour at a time, for a maximum of two hours per day. If the staff determines a problem with a user they must end their session and leave the terminal when asked to do so by library staff, even if they have not completed their session or task. Internet computers may not be used for illegal activity, to access illegal materials, or to access materials that by local community standards would be obscene. Users may not make any attempt to gain unauthorized access to restricted files or networks, or to damage or modify computer equipment or software. Users are to respect copyright laws and licensing agreements. Users are to respect the privacy of other users, and refrain from viewing or attempting to view or read material being used by others. To do so is a violation of the Privacy Act. In accordance with the Privacy Act, the library staff may not provide unauthorized information about a patron's use of the computers or Internet. Failure to comply with the Internet and computer policy and/or the rules of conduct will result in the loss of Internet and computer privileges. Illegal acts involving library computing resources may also be subject to local, state, and/or federal authorities.

Approved by the Library Board 10-24-2022

Amended and approved by Library Board 02-13-2023