



Computer and Internet Use Policy

The Hampstead Public Library (HPL) provides wired and wireless unfiltered internet access and connected devices as a service to all patrons as part of our mission to provide equal access to all information sources.

HPL and its Board of Trustees subscribe to the ALA Access to Electronic Information, Services and Networks: An interpretation of the Library Bill of Rights, which states that “libraries should use technology to enhance, not deny, access to information.”

HPL seeks to provide equal access to information for persons of all ages and will not restrict access to library materials and services for minors. Parents and guardians of children under the age of 18 are responsible for deciding what library materials are appropriate for their children, as well as supervision or restriction.

The Library cannot guarantee a secure connection to the Internet in a wireless environment. The Library is not responsible for any information that is compromised, hacked or stolen, or for any damage caused to users’ personal hardware or software due to security issues, viruses, hacking or library systems. We remind users that confidentiality and privacy cannot be guaranteed when using the internet.

HPL computers are located in public places, therefore users are asked to consider appropriate use in shared spaces. Library staff members reserve the right to ask users to refrain from displaying computer images that are inappropriate for public viewing. Blatantly offensive visual or text-based materials constitute potential sources of sexual harassment to other patrons and to library staff and will not be tolerated.

HPL reserves the right to terminate a computer or wireless access session that disrupts library services or that involves patron behavior that violates this policy or the Library Code of Conduct. Violations of any part of this policy may result in the loss of library privileges. Penalties may include suspending or terminating the patron’s access to library computers and/or Internet access.

Illegal activity involving the Library’s computer or Internet resources will be subject to prosecution by the appropriate authorities. Any files stored on the hard drive will be deleted by the library staff on a regular basis.

HPL Trustees reserve the right to modify this policy at any time. Use of the library’s wired and wireless Internet access constitutes acceptance of the current version of the policy.

Accepted by the Board of Trustees, March 21, 2012

Revision Approved by Board of Trustees, September 20, 2016

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