

REVISED SAFE PRACTICES POLICY

Brewster Public Library is committed to serving its community under the continuing covid-19 situation. Keeping that commitment and the health and safety of our community and employees of paramount importance, the Board of Trustees has adopted the following Revised Safe Practices Policy. Adherence to these practices shall be enforced as a requirement of the Library's Code of Conduct until such time as this policy is revoked or further revised.

Staff at Brewster Public Library have the authority to enforce these measures like any other of the Library's policies. Concerns about this policy should be directed to the Director of the Library. Thank you for honoring these measures, which are designed to keep our community safe, while allowing access to the Library.

In making this policy, the Library considers relevant law, executive orders, and recommendations of federal, state, and local public health authorities. The Library may need to modify the policy further to conform to changing guidelines.

TEMPORARY SAFETY MEASURES.

Because younger children are not eligible for covid-19 vaccines and because the vaccination rates for all children are lower than the population as a whole, **all patrons attending children's programs will be required to wear masks covering nose and mouth continuously during the program.** Persons who do not comply will be required to leave the program room. For purposes of this requirement, "children's programs" include all programs open to children age 12 and below.

Except as provided above with respect to Children's Programming, all patrons visiting the Library or its grounds are strongly encouraged, but not required, to wear face masks covering nose and mouth.

All Library staff are required to wear masks covering their nose and mouth whenever they are working behind the circulation desks and/or in public areas of the Library, or when they cannot maintain a safe distance (generally 6 feet) from other staff members. At all other times, Library staff are encouraged, but not required, to wear such masks while working.

In addition, Library staff is empowered to insist that any patron engaging in the following behaviors leave the Library or its grounds.

- Exhibiting a lack of hygiene that could promote the transmission of COVID-19. For example, but not limited to, not shielding coughs or sneezes.
- Refusing to maintain a safe distance of 6' from other patrons not within their own living unit, or from staff members.

Please note that outside vendors who run programs at the Library may require face masks or other measures beyond those in this Revised Safe Practices Policy.

Revised and adopted: March, 2022