



## **Illness Policy**

**Adopted by the Board May 19, 2026**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to reduce the spread of contagious illnesses within the Library while maintaining a welcoming, accessible and inclusive environment for all patrons, staff, and volunteers.

### **Policy Statement**

The Library encourages individuals who are experiencing symptoms of a contagious illness to postpone their visit until they are feeling well. This supports the health and safety of patrons, employees, volunteers, and the broader community.

### **Guidelines**

The Library will follow applicable federal, state, and local public health guidance. Preventative measures adopted under this policy will be reasonable, non-discriminatory, and responsive to current conditions, while balancing public health considerations, access to Library services, and individual rights.

The Library Director, or their designee, is responsible for administering this policy and responding to any related questions or concerns.

## **For Patrons**

Patrons who are experiencing symptoms of a contagious illness (such as fever, vomiting, persistent coughing, or other symptoms that may spread illness) are encouraged to delay visiting the Library until symptoms have resolved.

Patrons are expected to practice good hygiene while in the Library, including covering coughs and sneezes and using hand sanitizer when available.

If a patron is visibly unwell and their behavior may pose a health or safety concern to others, Library staff may ask the individual to leave and return when they are feeling well.

## **For Employees**

Employees experiencing symptoms of a contagious illness are expected to remain home in accordance with the Library's sick leave policies.

Employees should follow recommended hygiene practices, including regular handwashing and routine cleaning or sanitizing commonly touched surfaces.

## **Library Practices**

The Library may implement reasonable preventative measures to support a healthy environment, including:

- Providing hand sanitizer when available
- Regular cleaning of frequently touched surfaces as part of routine maintenance
- Recommending face coverings during periods of elevated illness or requiring them when directed by applicable public health guidance, in compliance with applicable laws

The Library will communicate any temporary health-related requirements or recommendations through signage, social media, and the Library's website.

This policy may be updated as conditions and public health guidance evolve.

## **Respect and Non-Discrimination**

All actions taken under this policy will be respectful, reasonable, and applied consistently. The Library will not discriminate against individuals based on disability, medical conditions, or any other protected characteristic.