

August 10, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The Worth Public Library welcomes you back for the 2021-22 school year.

Any child entering the library should be here for library activities only (checking out library materials, doing homework, using a computer or activity kit etc.) As noted in our Unattended Child Policy, *“the library should not be used as a daycare center for children of any age, nor should it be used as an alternative shelter for children”*.

Any child under the age of 11 must be accompanied by someone age 17 or older. Please take time to carefully consider if you want to send your older child to the library without an adult.

For the safety of all library visitors children will not be able to congregate inside or outside the library while waiting to be picked up after school or otherwise.

Available services and COVID-19 protocols in Youth Services Department

- **Masks:** Masks are required for everyone aged 2 and up regardless of vaccination status in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- **Browsing and Checkouts:** Patrons are able to come inside the library to look for and check out library materials.
- **Limited seating:** The number of children visiting the Youth Services Department will be limited to the number of seats available. Seating will be limited to allow for social distancing. Patrons must sign in. They will be rotated out after 30 minutes if others are waiting for a seat. The rotation will be based on the time signed in and compliance with the patron behavior policy. Seating time will be extended if no one is waiting. If an unattended child is waiting to be seated, he/she can remain in the library if a seat will be available within 5 minutes. If the wait time is longer, he/she must leave the library and come back. Seating is available on a first come first serve basis and cannot be reserved. Seating may not be available if a Youth Services staff member is not present.
- **Computers:** Computer time will be limited to 30 minutes. Children may have their time extended if no one is waiting for a computer and they are following the patron behavior policy. Waiting for a computer follows the same procedure as waiting for a seat.
- **Programs:** There will be no in-person youth programs at this time.

- **Activity Kits:** Activity kits will be available at the Youth Services desk for use in the library. The kits may be signed out as long as a Youth Services staff member is present. Kits are available for 30 minutes (longer if no one is waiting for the kit or a seat). More information about checking out activity kits will be available on the library website and Facebook page after the school year begins.

Please note that the Worth Public Library's COVID-19 protocols and available services may be adjusted due to changing circumstances. We will do our best to stay in communication with the Worth School District and individual schools to keep you updated on information regarding the library.

Information about our policies and services are available on our website www.worthlibrary.com. If you have concerns about library policies, please send them to libraryboard@worthlibrary.com. If you have questions about youth services or youth programs, please contact a Youth Services staff member by email at ysreg@worthlibrary.com or by phone at 708-448-2855 x 3.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding during these challenging times.

Stay safe and healthy, and have a great school year!

Worth Public Library Board of Trustees