

Epsom Public Library Social Media Policy (Accepted August 18, 2021)

The Epsom Public Library uses various online social media platforms/services to provide public forums for sharing events, ideas, programs, and information about library related topics and issues. In keeping with our mission to “promote the development of well-informed and literate citizens through open access to cultural, intellectual and information resources” the Epsom Public Library will use social media to:

- Communicate with members of the Epsom community and library patrons by presenting information about library events, resources, services, and library-related news.
- Engage with our community members by offering opportunities for them to ask questions and post library related comments

Definition of Social Media:

Social media is defined as websites where users are able to share and generate content, and find and connect with other users of common interest. Such social media platforms may include, but are not limited to: blogs, instant messaging, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

Parental Controls and Privacy:

The Epsom Public Library does not act in place of, or in the absence of, a parent/guardian, and thus can not be responsible for enforcing any restrictions which a parent/guardian may place on a minor’s use of social media.

The library does not collect, maintain or otherwise use the personal information stored on any third party site in any way, other than to communicate library related information. Users may remove themselves at any time from Epsom Public Library social media pages. Users should be aware that third party websites have their own privacy policies and should proceed accordingly.

Commenting:

Comments, posts, and messages are welcome on the Epsom Public Library social media pages. While the library recognizes and respects differences of opinion, all such interactions will be regularly monitored for content and relevance. The purpose of our participation in social media is to allow and encourage the Epsom Public Library to communicate with the community and library patrons on topics of interest to the library such as library events, services, and news. The topics of discussion will be set by the Library Director, and it is expected that comments made will be on topic. Comments that are off topic may be removed. Epsom Public Library reserves the right to report, mute, flag, or remove posts that are deemed to be abusive, defamatory, in violation of copyright, trademark right, or other intellectual property rights of any

third party, or otherwise inappropriate for the service. The Epsom Public Library further reserves the right to remove posts which contain any of the following:

- Comments unrelated to the library, its mission, or its activities
- Commercial promotions or spam
- Factually incorrect information
- Hyperlinks to materials that are not directly related to the discussion topics
- Personal attacks, insults, or threatening language
- Photos or other images unrelated to the library, its missions or activities
- Plagiarized or copy-written material
- Political activity
- Potentially libelous statements
- Private personal information published without consent of the individual
- Obscene or racist content

All comments are in the public domain.

By posting content, the user agrees to indemnify Epsom Public Library and its officers and employees from and against all liabilities, judgments, damages, and costs incurred by any of them which arise out of, or in connection with, the posted content.

Liability and Participation:

The Epsom Public Library does not endorse content outside of the pages maintained by the library. Participation in Epsom Public Library social media pages implies agreement with all the library policies and the Terms of Service for each third party service.