Ossining Public Library Pandemic Response FAQ

This document contains information about various library services, hours changes, rules changes, etc., during the COVID-19 pandemic. The library is following the Ossining Public Library Pandemic Policy and Plan.

This document was last updated on: 12/13/2021

1. Q: What phase of the Pandemic Policy and Plan is the library currently in?  
   A: We are currently in Re-Entry Phase 4 (as of June 11, 2021).

2. Q: What are the library’s hours?  
   A: The library is currently open for its regular hours:  
      Monday, 9 to 9  
      Tuesday, 10-6  
      Wednesday, 1-9  
      Thursday, 9-9  
      Friday, 10-6  
      Saturday, 9-5  
      Sunday, 10-5  
      Please visit our website for hour holiday hours: https://ossininglibrary.org/about-opl/visit-opl/

3. Q: What is available through Curbside Service?  
   A: You may pick up books and other materials that have come in for you on hold. You may also pick up print jobs that you have ordered, activity kits, and free books that are available.

4. Q: How do I let the library know that I’m here for a curbside pickup?  
   A: Please send a text to 914-918-0720 and follow the instructions. Need help? Call the circulation desk at 914-941-2416 and choose option 1. More information about curbside services can be found here.

5. Q: How do I do curbside printing?  
   A: Email your print job as an attachment to OPLprint@wlsmail.org. Staff will respond by email when your print job is ready. Pick it up by using Curbside Service (see above).

6. Q: What can I do at the library?  
   A: You can browse all of our collections and can check out your materials at the circulation desk. You sit and read or study in most areas of the building. You can use the copy machine. You can attend a program. You can use a computer and print. You can speak to a librarian and get answers to your questions. Pretty much all of the same stuff you did pre-COVID – just with a mask on!
7. Q: I'm vaccinated. Why do I have to wear a mask?  
A: Over the summer, we did allow vaccinated folks to choose to mask or unmask. With the uptick in infections in our area, with the fact that vaccinated folks can still catch and transmit the virus, and due to the fact that we know that many of our patrons are unvaccinated, for the health and safety of our staff and public we are now requiring all individuals – staff and public -- to wear a mask, whether or not we are vaccinated. As conditions change, we will continue to reevaluate this rule.

As of 12/13/2021, New York State is requiring that folks wear masks in public buildings at all times except while actively eating and drinking. At this time, the library is allowing folks to eat in the lower level. Masks are required to be worn in this area at all times except when an individual is actively eating and drinking. Folks who are eating and drinking are required to maintain social distancing when doing so. Please see the FAQs from New York State here.

8. Q: Am I allowed to eat in the library?  
A: We currently allow patrons to eat in the café area on the lower level. Eating is not allowed in other areas of the library.

9. Q: Am I allowed to book a meeting or performance space for myself or a group?  
A: Currently, only non-profit and government organizations are allowed to book spaces to meet at the library and the only spaces available for this purpose are the café area and the gallery area. All other spaces, including the theater and meeting spaces, are for library programs only.

10. Q: Is the library holding in-person programs?  
A: We are offering limited in-person programs, as well as virtual programs.

11. Q: How is the library keeping the building clean?  
A: Our Buildings and Grounds team does routine cleaning of high touch surfaces throughout the day. All library staff members regularly clean their work areas, including work areas at each service desk. Library staff members are instructed to wash their hands frequently and to use hand sanitizer between washing. Staff members also wear masks at all times when in public areas of the building.

12. Q: Are there any other rules that I need to be aware of when visiting the library?  
A: In addition to the rules outlined in this document and our regular Code of Conduct, all patrons over the age of 2 must wear masks at all times, with the exception of patrons who are actively eating and drinking in the lower level Café area. Patrons are requested to maintain social distance of 6 feet away from library staff and other unrelated patrons when possible.