

Collection Development Policy

Materials selected for the Oxford Public Library collection will meet current and long-term needs of residents of Oxford and the surrounding area for information, education, culture, and recreation. The library strives to offer a wide range of subjects and view in a variety of formats, within the limits of cost and space and considering local demand. Due to limited space, the collection will be broad, current and popular, not archival or comprehensive. The library participates in programs designed to provide patrons access to materials not owned, such as interlibrary loan, reciprocal borrowing agreements, and access to Internet resources. Materials selected for the collection may be physically owned by the library or may be accessed through a vendor's website. The library may partner with other libraries to offer joint access to digital or other collections. Remote electronic access to digital resources may be limited by licensing constraints.

Inclusion of materials in the collection does not constitute endorsement of their contents. The library follows accepted principles of intellectual freedom; therefore, it will not remove specific titles solely because individuals or groups may find them objectionable. The library subscribes to the principles embodied in the *Library Bill of Rights* and its interpretations, *Freedom to Read*, and *Freedom to View* statements adopted by the American Library Association.

Access to library materials will not be restricted based on age except in the case of expensive equipment, which may require parent/guardian permission for check out to patrons under the age of 18 due to high replacement costs.

Materials will be withdrawn if they are out-of-date, badly worn, damaged, or no longer being used. Other considerations include shelf space, replacement cost, aesthetics, and availability through other libraries or booksellers. Locally significant materials may be retained. Withdrawn materials may be sold, recycled, or discarded.

The library welcomes suggestions and comments from the public. User suggestions for purchase will be evaluated in accordance with this policy and collection development plans. Donated materials will be evaluated with the same selection criteria that are applied to purchase materials. See the Donation Policy for further information.