Directorate of collegiate Education,
Vikasbhavan, Thiruvananthapuram.
Dated 31/05/2019


Circular

Sub:- Collegiate Education Department - Science labs - Safety measures
- instructions issued - reg.

Ref:-1. Application of Kum.Mekha, Mercy College, Palakkadu

Science experiments are vital for students. They are useful in understanding the theories and concepts of science that cannot be comprehended alone by science text books. But science labs are risky by the very nature of chemicals and lab experiments that are being conducted out there. Hence the following directions of using science labs in colleges are strictly adhered to.

- Never work in the laboratory without the supervision of an authorized instructor.
- Always perform the experiments or work precisely as directed by your instructor.
- Immediately report any spills, accidents, or injuries to your instructor/Principal concerned
- Never leave experiments while in progress.
- Never attempt to catch a falling object.
- Be careful when handling hot glassware and apparatus in the laboratory. Hot glassware looks just like cold glassware.
- Never point the open end of a test tube containing a substance at yourself or others.
- Never fill a pipette using mouth suction. Always use a pipetting device.
- Make sure no flammable solvents are in the surrounding area when lighting a flame.
- Do not leave lit Bunsen burners unattended.
- Turn off all heating apparatus, gas valves, and water faucets when not in use.
- Do not remove any equipment or chemicals from the laboratory.
- Store coats, bags, and other personal items in designated areas.
- Notify your instructor of any sensitivities that you may have to particular chemicals.
- Keep the floor clear of all objects (e.g., ice, small objects, and spilled liquids).
- Safety gears like splatter goggles, or an apron and gloves whenever using acids, bases, stains, or hazardous chemicals.
- All solutions, chemicals, and specimens should be treated with care.
- Never taste or smell anything in the lab.
- When mixing chemicals or conducting the experiments, keep the test tube containing the chemical away from your face, mouth, and body.
- Do not work alone in the lab.
- Never lift any glassware, solutions, or other types of apparatus above eye level.
- If you have been injured, yell out immediately and as loud as you can to ensure you get help.
- If you notice any unsafe conditions in the lab, let your supervisor know as soon as possible.
- Bunsen burner flames should not be used near flammable liquids such as Acetone, petroleum ether etc.
- All electrical appliances should be disconnected from their power source before leaving the lab.
- Before closing for the day, hands are washed with plenty of water.

All necessary arrangements and other preparatory works should be completed in the science labs of every college before the commencement of every academic year. Personal attention of Principal and HODs concerned are bestowed in this regard.

Sd/-

Dr. P.S. AJITHA
Additional Director of collegiate Education

Copy to: 1. The Deputy Directors of Collegiate Education (for informing all Private/Aided Colleges)
2. The Principals of all Government colleges.

//Approved for issue//

Superintendent