

# **Vimala College (Autonomous)**

## **Thrissur**



# **Policy on Campus Sustainability**

## **(Vimala Swachh Campus Policy)**



**VIMALA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), THRISSUR**  
**KERALA 680009**

<b>Policy No.</b>	VC/ Policy/ 20				
<b>Policy Name:</b>	Policy on Campus sustainability - Vimala Swachh Campus Policy (Environment Protection, Natural Resources and Waste Management)				
<b>Drafted by</b>	Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in consultation with respective Working Committee	<b>Adopted:</b>	2018-19	<b>Revised:</b>	2020-21
<b>Approved by</b>	Governing Council	<b>Date:</b>	08 April 2021		
<b>Next Revision</b>	2022-23				



  
PRINCIPAL IN-CHARGE,  
VIMALA COLLEGE  
(AUTONOMOUS)  
THRISSUR - 680 009

Vimala College is committed to maintain its campus environmentally sustainable and achieving maximum possible resource efficiency. This include adopting most efficient practices in the planning, design, construction, operation and maintenance of campus environment and services to conserve resources and preserve ecosystems.

This Policy outlines the college's commitment about sustainable resources/waste management, to fulfil its ethical and legal responsibilities to manage waste that arises as a result of the college's operations in a manner that reduces negative impact on the environment and avoids causing harm to human health. This policy is based on waste prevention, followed by minimization, re-use, recycling, energy recovery and finally, the environmentally sustainable disposal of residual waste.

#### **Purpose of the Policy:**

- a. Abide by all relevant government legislative requirements related to the use of resources;
- b. Make consistent and equitable decisions about the efficient use of resources and best practice environmental management;
- c. Take decisions considering the environmental or social effects or risk of serious or irreversible harm to public health or the environment;
- d. Approach the use of resources using the hierarchy: rethink, refuse, reduce, reuse, recycle;
- e. Protect biological diversity and ecological integrity;
- f. Ensure staff, students and visitors are aware of their responsibility with regard to resource efficiency and conservation;
- g. Involve the academic community through consultation, participation and shared responsibility for decisions relating to resource management; and strive to meet our obligations as a member of the global community and minimising



**Specific Objectives:**

1. Formulate appropriate strategies to manage natural resources in the campus
2. Supports sustainability goals and compliance with emerging regulations
3. Ensure that all staff and students are aware of their responsibilities to maintain the campus resource efficient and sustainable
4. Identify areas and sources of waste production in the college campus
5. Employ effective waste management practices to identify the most efficient methods to reduce the production of waste and to maximize the re-use or recycling of waste material.
6. Manage the process to ensure compliance with best practices
7. Conduct training and campaigns on energy saving methods

**Strategies:**

Resource efficiency: Promote practices that ensure minimised use of water, energy and materials (including but not limited to) paper, containers, packaging, electronics, building materials and chemicals; minimised production of waste; and recycling and proper disposal of waste, minimised production of and contribution to greenhouse gas and pollutant emissions.

Sustainable Buildings and equipments: Construction of buildings and purchase of equipments considering energy efficiency.

Solar Power: Promotion of on-site power generation through Installation of rooftop solar photovoltaics, reducing emissions aiming at 100 percent solar power in the campus.



**Sustainable Transport:** Promote carpool, vehicle free campus initiatives, restricted entry of vehicles in the campus, College buses, allocated spaces for parking, special provision of bicycle parking.

**Biodiversity:** Promotion of green campus with natural landscapes, restoration of indigenous flora and fauna.

**Waste and Recycling:** Systematic and scientific management of all sorts of waste.

**Water Use:** Promote efficiency in water preservation and water use.

**Energy Use:** Promote efficiency in energy use.

**Green Protocol:** Practices to maintain the campus environmentally sustainable.

### **Current Initiatives in the Campus:**

#### **1. Clubs and Forums**

The following clubs and forums are active in the campus specifically for environmental sustainability and resource management

- a. Nature Club
- b. Biodiversity Club
- c. Green Audit/Environment Audit Committee
- d. National Service Scheme

#### **2. Swachhta Action Plan and Committee:** An institutional level Swachhta Committee with members as given below:

- Principal
- Vice Principal
- Office Superintendent
- Head Accountant



- Hostel Wardens
- Coordinator- Green Audit
- Coordinator ( Student& Faculty ) - Nature Club
- Coordinators(Student &Faculty)- National Service Scheme
- NCC Officer and Cadets
- Coordinators(Student &Faculty ) - Unnat Bharath Abhiyan
- Coordinators (Student and Faculty
- Student Union Chairperson and General Secretary

The student members of the UBA are considered as the student members of the Swatchhta Action Plan Committee

#### **Responsibilities of Swatchta Action Plan Committee are:**

- ◆ Undertake water management, Energy Management, Sanitation and Hygiene initiatives in the campus.
- ◆ Undertake and maintain water conservation activities in the campus.
- ◆ Inculcate awareness among students on proper usage of resources (eg. Water, electricity etc.).
- ◆ Promotion of greenery and plantation in the campus.
- ◆ Promotion of fruit bearing, indigenous, native species of trees and plants.
- ◆ Provide environmental awareness to Staff, Students and other stakeholders on waste management issues and purchase only the reusable products.
- ◆ Avoid plastic waste in the campus and minimize the use of waste generation at source and facilitate repair, reuse and recycling over the disposal of wastes in a cost- effective manner.
- ◆ Ensure the safe handling and storage of wastes on College campus and check the practice of waste management principles.



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- ◆ Provide advice and guidance to the College on waste management and setting Environmental Performance Indicators for waste management.
- ◆ Monitoring and auditing the management systems for all wastes and operational monitoring of waste management systems across the campus.
- ◆ To implement all the state government and central government initiatives to promote cleanliness in the campus.

### **Specific activities in the campus**

**Green Protocol:** Green protocol at institutional level and departmental level.

Auditing: Green auditing Environment Auditing etc conducted by the respective committees.

**Solar Panels:** Installed solar panels contributing significant amount to meet the power requirements of the college

Lighting: Upgrade of lighting to LED improving energy efficiency

Water preservation: Installation of additional rainwater tanks in college campus and hostel. **Reuse of Water** from hand wash basin for gardening purpose.

Clean and Green Campus: Campus beautification by environmentally sustainable gardening practices

**Waste management in classrooms:** The class representatives of each class ensures that there are waste bins for bio waste and other waste in each class and the students are responsible to ensure the segregation of waste at source and deposit in the respective colour coded containers located in various places in the campus.

**Faculty Rooms and other facilities:** The segregation of waste at source and proper disposal is ensured by the faculty members

**Washrooms:** Sanitary napkins are disposed in a proper and acceptable manner.



**Hostel:** There is a systematic segregation and waste management methods are in place. The bio wastes are used for the production of bio-gas, which is used for cooking in the hostel.

**Training for support staff:** The College has a team of committed support staff who oversee waste management in the campus with proper training and supervision.

**E-waste management:** The institution in collaboration with Clean Kerala initiative of Govt. of Kerala manages e waste (such as CDs, monitors, keyboard, batteries, bulbs, tubes and electrical) whenever required.

**Hazardous waste management in laboratories:** All laboratories in the campus has separate standard operating procedure for lab waste management incorporated in the Lab manual.

#### **Reducing Air Pollution:**

Allocated spaces for pick-up and drop-off outside the campus

Restricted entry to vehicles in the campus

Parking only in allocated spaces

Observance of No -Vehicle day once in a month

**Health and Safety of Support Staff:** The staff who handle the waste materials are provided with gloves, sanitizers, cleaning/washing items, caps and necessary apparels.





**Strategies to reduce waste in the campus:**

- Choosing and buying recycled products
- Cut down over packed products
- Purchase refillable or reusable products (eg. Cartridges)
- Use re-usable items such as steel glass, plates etc.
- Waste reduction and cost saving strategies such as photocopiers set to double sided, reuse one-sided papers, ban use of flex boards and plastic hoardings
- Insisting outsiders to take the waste generated by them (eg. Canteen, catering services etc.)
- Discourage students and faculty doing any activity that create waste in the campus
- Decoration using natural materials
- Ban on plastic bottles and promotion Steel water bottles
- Encourage student to use ink pen
- Proper collection and arrangement

Sustainability is meeting the needs of current generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Vimala College wants to make it easy for its stakeholders to reduce environmental footprint as we work on campus. Vimala College has set environmental targets and practices to reduce impacts related to energy usage, carbon emissions, water usage, and waste management.



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