

GOKHALE MEMORIAL GIRLS' COLLEGE



Green and Clean Campus Policy

A Green Campus Policy aims to create an environment-friendly, sustainable campus, to make the students environmentally conscious and to spread the notion of environmentally friendly culture to the surrounding community. In tandem with the requirements of a green campus, Gokhale Memorial Girls' College (GMGC) has drawn up the following policy statement.

Context

The relationship between GMGC and nature is a long and enduring one since its inception and something that students and staff of the college are aware of. The college has an open space with plantation around it which is maintained with utmost care. The plantation is home to a number of plants and trees of different varieties, flowering plants and herbal plants.

Scope of the Policy

As Mahatma Gandhi has said - "Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed". The Green Campus Policy will develop new co-curricular and extra-curricular practices that encourage students to take the lead in creating positive change. These initiatives call for a thorough review of all infrastructural, administrative functions from the standpoints of cleanliness, hygiene and environmental sustainability. The focus areas of this policy are:

- Clean Campus Initiatives
- Clean Air initiatives
- Landscaping Initiatives
- Infrastructural Initiatives
- E-governance initiatives
- Awareness Initiatives

Objectives of the Policy

- To protect and conserve ecological systems and resources within the campus.
- To ensure judicious use of environmental resources to meet the needs and aspirations of the present and future generations.
- To integrate environmental concerns into policies, plans and programmes for social development and outreach activities.
- To work with all stakeholders and the local community to raise awareness and seek the adoption of environmental good practice and the reduction of any adverse effects on the environment.
- To continuously improve our contribution to climate protection and adaptation to climate change and to the conservation of global resources.
- To continuously improve the efficient use of all resources, including energy and water, and to reduce consumption and the amount of waste produced, recovering and recycling waste where possible.
- To make the campus plastic free
- To conduct environmental and energy audits as feasible
- To minimize the use of paper in administration through E-governance policy.

Policy

Clean Campus Initiatives

GMGC is committed to actively coordinate cleanliness activities in the college and beyond the campus in accordance with the vision of Swachha Bharat Abhiyan. The institution has been recognized as a “Swachhta Institution” by the MGNCRE. It already has the NSS Unit-1 and the faculty as members of the MGNCRE SES REC Cell who are entrusted the task of continuing with the Programme. The broad vision is as follows:

1. Generating awareness on cleanliness and hygiene amongst students and staff members by holding regular cleanliness drives. The idea is to motivate them to contribute in a proactive manner.
2. Activities under ‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’ will be a key component of all the community work being done by the student and staff members of NSS, NCC and SES REC Cell.
3. Staff Members will be encouraged to participate in the cleanliness drive in the college campus.
4. Events such as poster and slogan competitions, wall magazines, special lectures, workshops, essay writing, competitions will be organized.
5. Rallies on themes connected with ‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’ and World Environment Day in and around the college campus will be conducted to create mass awareness.
7. Remove all kinds of waste material like broken furniture, unusable equipment etc.
8. Conduct workshops on the 3Rs: Reduce, reuse and recycle waste.
9. Commit to manage waste and maintain clean campus especially during college events.

Landscaping Initiatives

The campus landscape is the physical embodiment of the institution's values. It is a vital part of the life of a campus, providing space for study, play, outdoor events, relaxation and aesthetic appreciation. However small the open space may be, the policy of the institution is to make it as aesthetically appreciable, as it can serve as a visual representation of the campus community's commitment to sustainability.

- Organizing annual tree plantation drives
- Encouraging students to hold tree planting events
- Encouraging students to appreciate the plantation garden and nurture it

Clean Air Initiatives

- Restriction on the entry of automobiles inside the campus
- Prohibition on Smoking and use of other tobacco products in compliance with the framework provided by the National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP) 2007-2008.

Infrastructural Initiatives

- GMGC is dedicated to minimizing and sustainably managing its use of electricity. Electrical fixtures are switched off when not in use. Students are particularly guided to follow this principle.
- The college believes in reducing the consumption of electricity produced by non-renewable resources by switching to clean energy sources like solar energy for purposes like lighting the campus.
- Energy Saving and Energy Efficient Equipment- The College is committed to install environment-friendly electrical appliances that save energy and reduce wasteful inefficiencies. The college believes in using cleaner energy such as LED lighting.
- Solid Waste Management - With its aim to provide holistic education that also has a positive impact on the environment, the college will adopt practices that will mitigate the generation solid waste through the following methods:
 - (a) Systematically engage with the 3Rs of environment friendliness (Reduce, Reuse and Recycle).
 - (b) Collect paper waste produced on campus and collaborate with scrap dealers for recycling.
 - (c) Reduce solid waste by developing a technology-centric teaching and administrative model.
 - (d) Reduce use of paper by supporting digitization of attendance and internal assessment records.
 - (e) Reduce requirement of printed books by updating the e-books and e-journals collection of the college library.
 - (f) Encourage the students and teachers to use emails for assignment submissions.
 - (g) Take initiatives to spread awareness amongst students about Food wastage and ways of minimizing it; developing the habit of reusing and recycling non-

biodegradable products; Organizing workshops for students on solid waste management.

- (h) To collect sanitary waste in bins maintained in the washrooms and toilets and systematically dispose it.
- (i) To remove the debris of new construction and steel with help of the PWD.

- Water Conservation

- (a) To install rain water harvesting system if technically feasible.
- (b) Maintain leak proof water fixtures: employing a caretaker on a permanent basis to take immediate steps to stop any water leakage through taps, pipes, tanks, toilet flush etc. Prevent overhead tank overflow

- e-Waste Management

- (a) More provisions for the disposal of the institutional e-waste though its generation is minimal in the institution.
- (b) Collaboration with e-waste recycling companies such as WEBEL to get electronic waste recycled
- (c) Awareness amongst students about reduction of e-waste and environment friendly disposal practices for e-waste

- Conduct Green Audit - The College shall aim to conduct a Green Audit to assess its strengths and weaknesses to further its goals of long-term sustainability. A green audit is a useful tool to determine how and where most energy or water or resources are being used. The college can then consider how to implement changes and make savings. It can determine the type and volume of waste. Recycling projects or waste minimization plans can be adopted. It will create health consciousness and promote environmental values and ethics. It provides a better understanding of the impact of eco-friendly practices on campus. Green auditing will promote financial savings through reduction of resource use. It is imperative that the college evaluates its own contributions toward a sustainable future.

- Conduct Energy Audit - An Energy Audit to be conducted as and when required to further reduce its carbon footprint. The importance of reducing energy consumption cannot be overstated. The energy audit, with its specialized tools will identify wastage of energy. Such an inspection often reveals several different flaws which cause a loss of significant amounts of energy which the college will not be able to detect. These flaws often have easy and affordable solutions and provide significant savings.

- Strictly maintain a Plastic-Free Campus - GMGC has been observing most of its duties in terms of solid waste management since its inception. In view of the Government of India's resolution to ban all single use plastics due to the hazardous impact of plastic use and pollution, the college administration strictly bans the use of single use plastics in its premise to make it a 'Plastic Free Campus'

e-Governance Initiatives

- Paperless Office and Communication: - The college has a policy to minimize the use of paper in all types of official/academic communication of the college through e-Communication. The use of paper is substantially reduced through digitization. One-side blank pages are used to avoid wastage of paper. The departments and teaching faculty have been provided Gsuite accounts through which they make all the required academic, official and college-related communication. What's app - Class-wise groups, Department wise groups, Committee wise groups have been formed which have reduced the usage of paper in notices and circulars. Moreover, the college has avoided massive usage of paper by introducing the "Learning Management System" wherein references, notes, syllabi, question banks, study material are stored and shared on the e-platform. Departments use digital classrooms to accept E-assignments. This practice has proved highly beneficial to save time and resources, boost student productivity, save space, make documentation and information sharing easier, and help the environment. E-modules and software handle student data related to admissions, registration and results and departmental records.

Awareness Initiatives

To undertake environment-centric awareness programmes through lectures, seminars and workshops on -

- importance of conservation of environmental resources
- environmental pollution and its management.
- ethics and values that relate to the issue of environmental quality and sustainability
- judicious use of equipment
- aesthetic value of environment
- importance of bio-diversity

and through annual observances such as -

- World Environment Day
- Earth Day
- No "Tobacco" Day
- No Single-use Plastic Week/Day
- Campus Cleaning Day
- Tree Plantation Drive