



# **CRITERION 7** INSTITUTIONAL VALUES AND BEST PRACTICES

7.1 Institutional Values and Social Responsibilities

2019-2024 Submitted to



# 7.1.3 Green Policy

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# POLICY MANUAL



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### **PREFACE**

Welcome to the Rajagiri Viswajyothi College of Arts and Applied Sciences, (RVCAS) Policy Manual

This manual is more than just a collection of rules and guidelines; it is a reflection of the values, principles, and vision that define RVCAS College. As we continue to grow and evolve as an academic institution, this document serves as a cornerstone of our commitment to excellence, equity, and community.

At RVCAS, we believe that every member of our college—students, faculty, staff, and administration—plays a vital role in shaping the vibrant, inclusive, and dynamic environment that we are proud to call our own. This policy manual is designed to provide clarity, consistency, and direction, ensuring that we all work together towards common goals and uphold the standards that distinguish RVCAS.

The policies outlined in this manual have been carefully crafted to support the academic and operational integrity of our institution. They are intended to guide our decisions and actions, promote a culture of respect and accountability, and ensure that everyone at RVCAS has the opportunity to thrive. Whether students and staff are navigating academic procedures, understanding their rights and responsibilities, or seeking guidance on college operations, this manual is here to assist them.

It is important to recognize that this manual is a living document. As we continue to adapt to new challenges and opportunities, the policies within will be reviewed and updated to remain relevant and effective. We encourage all members of our community to engage with this manual, to familiarize themselves with its contents, and to contribute to its ongoing improvement.

Together, we will continue to build an institution that not only meets but exceeds the aspirations of all who are part of the RVCAS family.



## 16) GREEN AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

#### **PREFACE**

From its very inception, our institution has held steadfast to the principle of environmental sustainability. Situated amidst the verdant landscapes of Perumbavoor, our campus embodies the ethos of the CMI vision of education, rooted in a profound reverence for nature. Here, the natural splendor of our surroundings serves not only as a backdrop for learning but as an integral part of the educational experience itself. Students are immersed in a setting of pristine beauty where lush greenery and tranquil surroundings foster a sense of serenity and connection with the natural world. Through hands-on activities such as tree planting and organic gardening, learners forge a deep bond with the environment, instilling within them a lifelong commitment to environmental responsibility.

#### **POLICY**

In consonance with our enduring dedication to environmental stewardship, Rajagiri Viswajyothi College of Arts and Applied Sciences is committed to upholding the highest standards of sustainability across all facets of campus life. Our commitment to sustainability is not merely a matter of compliance with regulations but a fundamental aspect of our institutional identity.

We recognize our responsibility to minimize our ecological footprint and to preserve and protect the natural resources upon which we depend. Our campus serves as a living testament to our dedication to sustainability, with initiatives such as solarpowered lighting, rainwater harvesting, and composting programmes integrated seamlessly into our daily operations.

Furthermore, we understand that our commitment to sustainability extends beyond the confines of our campus borders. Through education, outreach, and community engagement, we seek to inspire and empower individuals to embrace sustainable practices in their own lives. By choosing a location that celebrates nature and by nurturing a culture of environmental stewardship, we aspire not only to enrich the lives of our campus community but also to contribute positively to the broader community and to the preservation of the natural world.

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#### **INITIATIVES**

- Promoting organic farming practices on campus to provide healthy, sustainable food options.
- Organizing events and activities to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices.
- 3. Eliminating the use of plastic bottles on campus and encouraging the use of sustainable alternatives.
- 4. Educating students about sustainable development and career opportunities in the field of sustainability.
- 5. Preserving traditional crafts and promoting the use of sustainable materials through training programmes.
- 6. Promoting the use of Khadi and other sustainable fabrics through special events and activities.
- 7. Growing a variety of fruits on campus to promote biodiversity and provide fresh produce.
- 8. Cultivating a garden of spices to educate students about their uses and benefits.
- 9. Creating a habitat for butterflies to promote biodiversity and provide a learning environment for students.
- 10. Teaching students about the care and management of farm animals in a sustainable manner.
- 11. Implementing tropical farming techniques to make the best use of the local climate and resources.
- 12. Growing a variety of medicinal herbs for educational and health purposes.
- 13. Maintaining a lush green area on campus to improve air quality and provide a tranquil space for students.
- 14. Maintaining a pond to support local wildlife and promote biodiversity.
- 15. Implementing rainwater harvesting systems to reduce water waste and promote sustainable water use.
- 16. Using pipe composting methods to manage organic waste on campus



efficiently.

As we embark upon this journey towards a greener future, we remain steadfast in our commitment to continuous improvement and innovation. Through ongoing dialogue, collaboration, and adaptation, we will strive to ensure that our campus remains at the forefront of environmental sustainability.

#### WASTE MANAGEMENT POLICY

In alignment with the CMI vision of nurturing psychologically integrated, intellectually competent, morally upright, and socially committed individuals, our institution is dedicated to promoting environmental stewardship and sustainability. Embracing these core values, we are committed to effective waste management practices that reflect our dedication to creating a cleaner and healthier environment. This policy outlines our comprehensive approach to waste management, aligned with the Government of India's Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and our institution's green protocol.

Our institution employs a meticulous waste management system that includes the following components:

- Degradable Waste collected from classrooms, corridors, porticos, and cafeterias are recycled appropriately.
- Food waste collected from wash areas, mess halls, and washrooms are used as feed for domesticated animals or composted.
- Plastic waste collected from classrooms, corridors, porticos, cafeterias, and washrooms are discarded in secure containers and recycled or sold for recycling.
- E-Waste collected by Haritha Karma Sena.
- We prioritize the recycling of paper, plastic, glass, metal, and e-waste, ensuring that these materials are processed and reused, reducing our environmental footprint.
- Organic waste is composted, converting it into valuable fertilizer for campus gardens, organic farms and green spaces.



Our waste management practices are in strict compliance with the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, emphasizing cleanliness, hygiene, and waste reduction. We regularly participate in national clean-up drives and initiatives to promote a clean and healthy campus environment.

We conduct regular workshops and awareness campaigns to educate students, faculty, and staff about the importance of waste segregation and recycling. This includes training on proper waste disposal methods and the environmental benefits of recycling and composting.

Our institution collaborates with local organisations and government bodies to enhance waste management practices and share best practices. We actively involve our community in sustainability initiatives, fostering a culture of environmental responsibility.

By implementing these waste management practices, our institution aims to create a sustainable and eco-friendly campus. This policy reflects our commitment to the CMI vision and our dedication to fostering an environmentally conscious and responsible community.

#### WATER CONSERVATION POLICY

In alignment with the CMI vision of developing intellectually competent, morally upright, and socially responsible individuals, our institution prioritizes environmental stewardship and sustainability. We are committed to reducing our water footprint and fostering a culture of active participation in water conservation among students and teachers. This policy outlines our comprehensive approach to water conservation, emphasizing the use of water-efficient technologies and practices, regular monitoring, and community engagement.

- Our institution is dedicated to reducing water usage across all campus activities. We strive to minimize our water footprint by implementing efficient water management practices and technologies.
- We encourage active participation from students and teachers in water conservation efforts. Through education and engagement, we aim to foster a sense of responsibility and commitment to sustainable water use.



- Regular workshops, seminars, and awareness campaigns are conducted to educate the campus community about the importance of water conservation and sustainable practices. We aim to cultivate a culture of water consciousness.
- Installation of low-flow faucets, and toilets to reduce water usage without compromising functionality.
- Implementation of efficient irrigation systems, such as drip irrigation, to reduce water wastage in campus gardens and green spaces.
- We conduct regular monitoring of water systems to detect and repair leaks and other inefficiencies promptly. This proactive approach helps to prevent water wastage and maintain optimal water usage.
- Installation of rainwater harvesting systems to collect and store rainwater for various campus uses. This practice reduces reliance on panchayath water supply and promotes sustainable water management.

By integrating these water conservation practices, our institution aims to create a sustainable and water-efficient campus. This policy underscores our commitment to the CMI vision of education, fostering an environmentally conscious and responsible community dedicated to preserving our precious water resources.

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