



## ST AGNES CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL SCIENCE LABORATORY CONTRACT

Science is a hands-on laboratory class. However, science activities may have potential hazards. We will use some equipment and animals that may be dangerous if not handled properly. Safety in the science classroom is an important part of the scientific process. To ensure a safe classroom, a list of rules has been developed and is called the Science Laboratory Contract. These rules must be followed at all times. Additional safety instructions will be given for each activity. No science student will be allowed to participate in science activities until this contract has been signed by both the student and a parent or guardian.

### LABORATORY RULES:

- Students must conduct themselves in a responsible manner at all times in the science laboratories. Horseplay, practical jokes, and pranks will not be tolerated. Running in the laboratories is not permitted.
- Students are not allowed in a laboratory without a teacher being present.
- Students are to line up against the wall outside the laboratory when waiting for their teacher.
- Students are to place their bags at the back of the laboratory during a lesson or leave their bags in a classroom when going into a laboratory.
- Students are expected to follow their teacher's instructions when completing experiments. Follow all written and verbal instructions carefully. Ask your teacher questions if you do not understand the instructions.
- Keep hands away from face, eyes, and mouth while using science materials or when working with either chemicals or animals. Wash your hands with soap and water before leaving the science room.
- Never eat, drink, chew gum, or taste anything in the science room.
- Students are not to touch the gas taps, water taps or electrical connections unless they are doing an appropriate experiment under their teacher's supervision.
- Wear safety glasses or goggles when instructed. Never remove safety glasses or goggles during an experiment. There will be no exceptions to this rule!
- Consider all chemicals used in the science room to be dangerous. Do not touch or smell any chemicals unless specifically instructed to do so.
- Always carry a microscope with both hands. Hold the arm with one hand; place the other hand under the base.
- Do not remove preserved specimens from the science room.
- Use scalpels, scissors, and other sharp instruments only as instructed. Never cut any material towards you—always cut away from your body.
- Wear gloves when handling animals.
- Follow your teacher's instructions to dispose of any waste materials generated in an experiment.
- Report any accident (fire, spill, breakage, etc.), injury (cut, burn, etc.), or hazardous condition (broken equipment, etc.) to the teacher immediately.
- Handle all glassware with care. Never pick up hot or broken glassware with your bare hands.
- Use extreme caution when using matches, a burner, or hot plate. Only light burners when instructed and do not put anything into a flame unless specifically instructed to do so. Do not leave a lit burner unattended.

- Never open storage cabinets or enter the prep/storage room without permission from the teacher.
- Tie back long hair during experiments. Tuck in shirts and ties during experiments.
- Clean all work areas and equipment at the end of the experiment. Return all equipment clean and in working order to the proper storage area.
- Students are to learn and follow all emergency/fire evacuation procedures as set out by the WHS committee.

AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, have read the laboratory safety guidelines and agree to be safety conscious in the laboratory at all times. I agree that I am responsible for my own safety and the safety of those working around me. I understand that if I do not follow all the rules and safety precautions, I will not be allowed to participate in science practicals.

Student

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and discussed the above rules with my child.

Parent

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_