

78-B, ACHARYA PRAFULLA CHANDRA ROAD, KOLKATA-700 009

Phone: 91 33 2350 1959 ■ Fax: 91 33 2360 0046 Website: www.victoriacollege.co.in

Ref. No. :	Date :
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BEST PRACTICE 1

Title: Preserve and proliferate the green cover within the college campus and maintenance of the medicinal plant garden.

Objectives:

- Promote a sense of connectedness with nature, environmental consciousness, sustainable practices amongst the students and also neutralize the carbon footprint which a busy location like that of this college, is likely to produce.
- Allow students to learn and appreciate the value of traditional Indian Ayurveda in their daily lives.

Context:

College campuses play an important role in impacting students' mind on a daily basis, and those adorned with a green aesthetics exudes greater positivity. Victoria Institution (College) is blessed with a pleasant green cover that it aims to protect and proliferate. Educating the future generations about the significance of medicinal herbs, the traditional Indian knowledge system of Ayurveda is again a highly beneficial practice that our institution is working on and intends to focus upon in the coming days.

The Practice:

Events are organised to preserve and enrich this green cover. On the occasion of World Environment Day, Vanamahotsav every year plants are potted in the college campus with active participation and cooperation of the Teaching, Non – Teaching faculties alongside the students.

The College has formed a Nature Club to motivate and ensure direct involvement of the students in this regard. The club members formulate year round action plans to make significant contributions towards keeping the campus clean and green.

The members of the College NSS unit also undertake activities like garden maintenance, plant potting, beautification of college gardens annually.

The college is taking strict measures to transform the campus into a Zero Plastic Zone, regular sapling plantation and their due maintenance is also given equal emphasis.

Principal
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Under the supervision of the faculties of the Botany Department the Medicinal Plants Garden Rejuvenation Project has been successfully conducted.

In recent times the faculties and students together took the noble resolution of not compromising the green coverage despite future infrastructural reforms.

Evidence of Success:

Green and Environment Audit has been conducted successfully.

There has been considerable increase in the number of plants inside the campus. Lately the college has received a good number of saplings and shrubs from the Forest Department to enrich the greenery within the campus. The medicinal garden is thriving as well.

Students are taking active interest in the Green Campus initiatives and eco-friendly activities of the Nature Club.

The College has also conducted a Nature Study course which was well received by the students.

Problems Encountered:

The landscaping initiative is limited owing to space crunch.

Heritage building debunks any possibility of roof top plantation.

Some maintenance issues faced due to extreme weather situation, disturbance of animals.

Limited resource is another impediment that the college seeks to overcome.

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BEST PRACTICE 2

Title: Multi-faceted learning and Skill Enhancement Programme

Objectives:

- Encourage Multidimensional, student-centered learning beyond curriculum.
- Promote empirical learning endeavours.
- Equip students to face placement interviews and career related obstacles.
- Encourage creativity by engaging students in varied extra-curricular activities.
- Ensure holistic development.

Context:

In this ever-evolving world of cut throat competition and increasing job fluidity, preparing the students for mere academic success is no longer enough. The focus ought to be more on how to guide them in navigating life beyond the academia, transform them into multi skilled, competent individuals. The 21st century emphasizes on learning beyond the curriculum with a view to promote critical thinking, innovation, inclusivity, student motivation, simultaneously fostering vital career skills and real-world readiness. The eventual transition from the previous 1+1+1 UG programme to the ongoing model of CBCS to the new Curriculum and Credit Framework under NEP has made this shift in modern educational approach all the more evident and tangible. Thus perceiving the need of the hour Victoria Institution (College) has come up with its own small initiative to orient the pupils in a novel direction, by helping them in acquiring new skills and identifying new possibilities and prospects. The plan is to prepare the young brigade for the challenges that awaits them, lend them greater flexibility in the job market, and instill within them the spirit of self reliance.

The Practice:

• Courses on Communicative English and Soft Skills, Life Skills and Digital Literacy were organised keeping in mind the future career prospects of the students. This highly demanding course was conducted by Naandi Foundation (NGO) in collaboration with the Mahindra Group.

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•College has made the collaboration with different organisations like Bajaj Finserv Limited, George Telegraph so that students may sharpen their employability skills by availing job-oriented professional training.

All these courses thus emphasize on confidence building, critical thinking, problem solving, conflict management and personality development measures to better equip our candidates for placement interviews and similar situations.

- •Computer Training and Literacy Programme in collaboration with WEBEL Technology Ltd. (Govt. Of West Bengal undertaking), is another career oriented certified course on computer applications that enable pupils to hone their professional skills alongside their academic accomplishments.
- Add-on Course on Photography, offers greater professional scope for the creative minds.
- Self defense Course on Karate to impart life skill lessons and help the girls brigade to become psychologically, intellectually and physically strong, prepared for the many challenges of the modern society.
- Course on Use of Arduino was conducted by the Dept. of Physics to prepare the students for the new edge technologies as Arduino, an electronic proto-typing which is the gateway to Automation / Robotics. This course helped in sensitizing the students regarding Environmental issues as well as the technological need of the present.
- Engaging students in several Activity clubs and skill based workshops like Dramatic Arts, Mime etc.

Evidence of Success:

Active participation of students in events outside the college, applying for competitive exams.

Reflection of their new skills in various college activities.

Problems Encountered:

Time adjustments and pressure of University examinations.

Parents holding on to the conventional mindset.

Lack of funds acts as a major hindrance in the path of execution of plans.

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