


ST. THOMAS COLLEGE OF TEACHER EDUCATION, PALA

7.1.6 Circulars and Relevant policy papers for the claims made:

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PLASTIC BAN POLICY

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Plastic Ban Policy

Following the global call for a sustainable environment and sustainable development, St. Thomas College of Teacher Education Pala has decided to restrict all kinds of plastic on campus. The plastic pollution crisis is an environmental emergency. Plastic usage has devastating effects on ecosystems and the climate. We have all heard about the terrifying reports of the Environmental agencies that say that if we stay in our current plastic-based mode, we will soon face unprecedented problems. We take part in the no plastic campaign to support the creation of a plastic-free campus.

THE GREEN PROTOCOL OF THE COLLEGE

1. Food should be brought only as needed to avoid wastage.
2. Encourage ink/paper pens to avoid the accumulation of plastic waste through discarded ballpoint pens.
3. Food and water should be brought in stainless steel containers, and disposable materials should be avoided.
4. Instead of throwing away waste, deposit it in the bins provided.
5. Plastic cups and plates should not be used at public functions where food is served.
6. Store electrical and electronic waste and regularly deliver it to scrap dealers to ensure it is recycled properly.
7. Avoid using flowers draped in plastic covers and flex items to greet dignitaries during public events.
8. Hoardings should not be pasted on walls with sellotapes or insulation tapes.

In the college campus premises, we do not use any plastic that cannot be recycled, and students pro-actively support the campaign through the following methods:

1. By establishing a plastic-free policy, all non- compostable single-use disposable plastics will be prohibited on campus and from campus food vendors. This includes the following restrictions:
 - Plastic shopping bags
 - Single-use plastic utensils or household items





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- All polystyrene-based service products
 - Foodservice ware is made from single-use plastic
 - Single-use clamshells (two halves, one-piece plastic containers) and disposable to-go and take-out plastic containers.
 - Single-use plastic-lined cups and bowls (coffee cups, soup bowls, snack boats, etc.)
 - Plastic-wrapped condiments and ~~straws~~
2. The following single-use plastic items are currently exempt from the above restrictions due to the lack of viable alternatives and other barriers to their removal. We will, however, consider plastic-free options in future procurement decisions and policies for these items:
- Pre-packaged plastic-wrapped retail items, such as chip bags (for instance, Lays, Bingo, etc.), candy bar wrappers, water bottles, and toiletries.
 - Plastic and polystyrene packaging used for incoming orders.
 - Plastics used in academic settings (e.g., lab equipment.)
 - Plastic wrap for use when preparing food.
 - Bags for trash and recycling that are made of plastic.
 - Single-use plastics that are necessary for health and safety (e.g., medical plastics)

Investment in education, resources, and infrastructure to assist in the Plastic- Free Campus transition. This includes:

- Education on plastics and our commitment to plastic-free alternatives for all incoming and current students, staff faculty
- Expanding resources and infrastructure for compost collection institutional use and general waste reduction practices. Possible examples include: Steel water bottle use inside campus, incinerator is in the college for its disposal mechanisms inside our campus.
- Adjusting procurement guidelines to encourage investment in durable and useful products across campus departments.



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