

BRIEN MCMAHON HIGH SCHOOL
SCIENCE DEPARTMENT
SAFETY RULES AND PROCEDURES AGREEMENT

To ensure that science experiments at school and home are safe and positive learning experiences, students and their parents should read, discuss, and sign this science safety rules and procedures agreement. The student should return and signed copy to the teacher and once checked by the teacher, will place it in the student's notebook.

1. **Perform the experiments as directed.** Do not do anything that is not a part of an approved experiment procedure. Follow all instructions given by your teacher or adult supervisor.
2. **Be properly prepared to do the experiment.** Read the written procedures in advance and understand what you are going to do. Lack of familiarity wastes your time and is a major cause of injury.
3. **Never work without adult supervision.**
4. **Wear appropriate protective equipment.** A lab coat or apron and ANSI approved eye protection should be worn at all times. This will usually mean chemical splash goggles. In addition, gloves shields, and hoods should be used as appropriate.
5. **Learn the locations and operations of emergency equipment.** This includes eye wash fountains, power and gas emergency cut-off switches, safety showers, fire extinguishers, fire blanket, sinks, spill cleanups and first aid supplies. Know what to do in case of emergencies.
6. **Act in a responsible manner at all times.** No horseplay or fooling around should occur in the classroom, lab or experimental area.
7. **Wear shoes that cover the entire foot. No sandals.** Clothing should not be loose and floppy, especially in the sleeves. Some new fabrics are highly flammable and should not be worn. Your arms and legs should be covered when dealing with chemicals.
8. **Tie back long hair to keep it away from flames and chemicals.**
9. **Never taste a chemical.** Check orders only if instructed to do so, by gently wafting some of the vapor towards your nose with your hand. Be sure your work area is adequately ventilated for your experiment.
10. **Turn off your Bunsen burner or other heat sources whenever you are not using it.** Never let any equipment operate unattended unless you are told to.
11. **Treat burns immediately by putting the burned area under cold water for at least 15 minutes or until told to remove it by the teacher.** Cold water markedly reduces the subsequent pain and blisters. Notify teacher and report it to the nurse.
12. **Read the chemical labels very carefully.** Read them three (3) times: **when you pick it up just before you use it and after you are finished.** Many mistakes – some dangerous – result from mixing the wrong chemicals. **Review MSDS** if necessary or told to do so by the instructor.
13. **Food, candy, gum or drinks should not be brought into the lab or experimental work area where chemicals are stored or used.**
14. **Report all accidents, injuries, close calls, and spills to your teacher and the school nurse.**
15. **Dispose of chemicals properly and as directed by the teacher.** Containers will be available for some specific waste chemicals. Broken glass goes in a special receptacle.

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16. **Never return unused reagents to the reagent bottle.** Be careful to take only what you actually need. Do not contaminate the reagents.
17. **Clean up all spills immediately.** This includes water.
18. **List your allergies on the bottom of this page.** If the experiment deals with something to which you are allergic, consult with your teacher or adult supervisor.
19. **Treat chemicals with the respect they deserve.** Know the hazards before you handle the materials.
20. **Never take chemicals, supplies, or equipment out of the laboratory without the knowledge and consent of the science teacher.**
21. **Wash off chemical splashed or spilled on your skin or body immediately.** Notify the teacher and continue flushing with water for 15 minutes or until told to stop by the teacher. Remove contaminated clothing immediately.
22. **Clean your lab work area: put away all equipment, reagents.** Clean glassware and wash your hands at the end of each work session.
23. On specified lab days students with contact lenses should wear glasses as vapors and splashed liquids can be trapped and condense between the eye and the contact lens.
24. **NO EATING IN SCIENCE CLASSROOMS.**

