In order to ensure that science experiments are safe and positive learning experiences, students and their parents should read, discuss, and sign this science safety rules and procedures agreement. No student in grades 6 – 12 will be permitted to participate in science laboratory work until this agreement is signed by parent and student and returned to the teacher.

1. Act in a responsible manner at all times. Misconduct that endangers anyone will not be tolerated.
2. Never work without adult supervision. Do not handle any materials until instructed by the teacher to do so.
3. Perform the experiments as directed. Read the written directions. Do not do anything that is not part of the approved experimental procedure. Follow all instructions given by the teacher. If you do not understand a direction or piece of equipment, ask the teacher before proceeding.
4. Eating, drinking, or chewing gum in the lab or experimental work area is forbidden.
5. Make-up is not to be applied in the laboratory.
6. Keep hands away from face, eyes, and mouth when using chemicals or preserved specimens.
7. Wear appropriate lab safety equipment as directed by your teacher. Keep protective equipment on until everyone has finished the lab and all chemicals have been put away.
8. Learn the locations and operation of emergency equipment including eyewash fountains, safety showers, fire extinguishers, fire blankets, etc. Report all accidents, injuries, or close calls to your teacher.
9. Follow teacher instructions for leaving the room under emergency conditions, fire drills, etc.
10. Closed-toe shoes must be worn during all laboratory exercises. Special care should be taken with loose clothing.
11. Tie back long hair to keep it away from flames and chemicals.
12. Never taste a laboratory chemical. Never pipet by mouth; use a pipet bulb.
13. Check odors only if instructed to do so by gently wafting the vapor upward toward your nose with your hand.
14. Do not use chipped or cracked glassware. Follow teacher instructions on bending and insertion of glass tubing into stoppers. Do not pick up broken glass with your fingers – sweep up larger pieces, use moist cotton for fine particles. Put broken glass, used blades, or other sharp materials in designated containers only.
15. Carry sharp objects with tip or sharp edge pointing downwards. Do not try to catch falling sharp objects.
16. Use caution when heating materials in the lab. Never turn on the heat source until instructed by the teacher. Eye protection must be worn. Keep hands and face away from the mouth of a test tube or beaker being heated. Turn off heat source when you are finished – never leave an active heat source unattended. Remember, a variety of lab materials can retain heat for a long period of time.
17. Do not enter science prep rooms or storage areas. Never take chemicals, supplies, or equipment out of the laboratory without the knowledge and consent of your science teacher.
18. Clean your work area at the end of each lab: put away equipment and reagents, notify your teacher of any spills on floors or counter tops. Wash your hands. Report any damaged glassware, equipment, or unsafe conditions.

Additional safety instructions may be added by your science teacher.