

# ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

**PURPOSE:** To support staff, students, and parents in creating a learning community where academic honesty is taught, expected, and practiced.

**DEFINITION OF ACADEMIC HONESTY:** Respecting the work and the ideas of other individuals. When one makes use of, or makes reference to, another's ideas or creations, appropriate credit and proper acknowledgement must be given.

Academic honesty and integrity is an important component of educational programming at all levels. In keeping with IB Standards and Practices, we expect all students to complete their school work to the best of their ability and to demonstrate the five fundamental principles identified by the IB — honesty, trust, fairness, respect and responsibility — by completing their work themselves and by acknowledging sources of information they may use in their assignments. Students are also expected to value the attitudes and skills inherent in being a principled communicator in all learning and assessment.

Any staff member, student or parent who is practicing the attributes of the IB learner profile will, by definition, be practicing academic honesty. We encourage learners to be: inquirers, knowledgeable, thinkers, communicators, principled, open-minded, caring, risk-takers, balanced, and reflective. Principled learning requires students to be honest and ethical in referencing sources of knowledge and ideas in their work.

## SCHOOL'S RESPONSE TO ACADEMIC MALPRACTICE:

Students who deliberately attempt to gain advantage in marks through dishonest practices, such as cheating, plagiarism, collusion or duplication of work will gain no credit for their work (mark of zero). If students engage in dishonest practices on more than one occasion, a comment making reference to the student's academic dishonesty could be added to the student's report card. A meeting may also be with both the student and the parent to review the academic honesty policy.

At Bishop David Motiuk, our definitions of malpractice are taken from the IB's publications regarding Academic Honesty:

### Plagiarism

Plagiarism is defined by the IB as "...the representation, intentionally or unwittingly, of the ideas, words or work of another person without proper, clear and explicit acknowledgment (*MYP: From Principles into Practice*, p. 94)."

In other words, plagiarism is when a student knowingly or unknowingly using another person's words or ideas and passes them off as his or her own. It is fine to use another person's ideas and words, as long as they are acknowledged using correct quotations and citations.

### Collusion

Collusion is defined by the IB as "...supporting malpractice by another [student], as in allowing one's work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another" (*MYP: From Principles into Practice*, p. 94)."

Collusion, then, is helping someone to cheat by doing things such as providing answers to a test or allowing others to copy work and turn it in as if it were their own. Collusion is never acceptable.

### Duplication of Work

Duplication of work is defined by the IB as "...the presentation of the same work for different assessment components" (*MYP: From Principles into Practice*, p. 94)."

Students who have completed an assignment in one class or subject would not be able to use parts or all of that assignment in other classes or subjects. To do so would constitute a duplication of work. Even though the student may have originally completed the work, it can't really use it again – unless it is properly quotes and cited.

### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** (adapted from Page 7 of the IB Academic Honesty Document)

The student is ultimately responsible for ensuring that all work submitted is authentic, with the work or ideas of others fully and correctly acknowledged.

The principal, and by extension, the school's teachers, must ensure that all students:

1. understand what constitutes academic honesty, an authentic piece of work and intellectual property
2. receive guidance on study skills, academic writing, how to conduct research and how to acknowledge sources
3. understand what constitutes malpractice (particularly plagiarism)
4. know the consequences of being found guilty of malpractice.

It is the responsibility of each teacher to confirm that, to the best of his or her knowledge, all student work is the authentic work of each student. Teachers are also expected to support and act on the school's policy on good academic practice and provide students with advice whenever necessary. In this respect teachers must act as good role models for the students.