



WBIS Academic Integrity Policy

1. Statement of Principle

At WBIS, our core value of **Integrity** is the foundation of our academic community. We believe that all work submitted by students should be a true reflection of their own effort, ideas, and learning. Academic integrity is not just about following rules; it is about being an ethical leader and a responsible global citizen.

2. Definitions of Academic Misconduct

To ensure clarity, WBIS defines the following as violations of academic integrity:

- **Plagiarism:** Taking the words, ideas, or work of another person (or source) and passing them off as one's own without proper citation.
- **Collusion:** Working with another student on an assignment that is intended to be individual work.
- **Cheating:** Using unauthorized materials (cheat sheets, mobile phones, etc.) during an assessment or "Reading Check."
- **AI Misuse:** Using Artificial Intelligence tools (like ChatGPT) to generate essays or answers and submitting them as original student work without explicit teacher permission.

3. Age-Appropriate Expectations

Pearson Primary (Years 1–6)

- **Focus:** "Learning to be Honest."
- Students are taught how to find information in books and online.
- Teachers introduce the concept of "giving credit" to authors and artists.
- **Goal:** To understand that copying a friend's homework or a Wikipedia paragraph is not helpful for their own learning.

Key Stage 3 (Years 7–9)

- **Focus:** "Academic Honesty and Research Skills."
- Students are taught formal **Citing and Referencing** techniques (e.g., MLA or APA style).
- Students must sign a "Student Honor Pledge" for major projects and end-of-term assessments.
- **Goal:** To prepare students for the strict requirements of Pearson Edexcel IGCSE exams.

4. Roles and Responsibilities

- **The School:** Will provide clear instruction on how to research and cite sources.
- **The Teacher:** Will design assessments that encourage original thinking and will use the "School Drive" to monitor drafts and progress.
- **The Student:** Will ensure all work submitted is their own and will ask for help if they are struggling, rather than resorting to academic dishonesty.
- **The Parent:** Will support their child's learning at home but will avoid doing the work *for* them.

5. Procedures and Consequences

WBIS follows a restorative approach to academic integrity, focusing on learning from mistakes:

1. **Level 1 (First Offense):** A meeting with the teacher, a requirement to redo the assignment, and a reflection on why integrity matters.
2. **Level 2 (Repeated Offense):** A formal meeting with the Principal/BOM and a notification to parents. The student may receive a "zero" for that specific assessment.

3. **Level 3 (Severe/Ongoing):** Recorded on the student's permanent academic record, which may impact future school recommendations.

6. Use of Technology and AI

While WBIS encourages the use of digital tools for research, students must follow the "**Human-First**" rule:

- AI may be used for brainstorming or grammar checks *only* if the teacher approves it for a specific task.
- Directly copying/pasting AI-generated content is considered a form of plagiarism.