



Academic Integrity Statement

Philosophy

Academic Integrity is an essential principle of all International Baccalaureate programmes and is fundamental to Gold Creek School's vision to *inspire individuals to flourish, embrace challenge and make a positive difference to our world*. Teaching about academic integrity is a critical component in preparing students for studies beyond Year 10 and into the workforce into the 21st century.

Gold Creek School approaches the teaching of academic integrity through a set of values and behaviours that all IB students aspire to demonstrate, articulated within the IB Learner Profile. Academic integrity is integral in developing principled citizens who act with honesty, fairness, trust, and respect. Our aim is to promote personal integrity, engender respect for the integrity of other people's work or that of their own work, and to ensure all students have an equal opportunity to demonstrate knowledge and skills they acquire during their studies. We teach our learners from Preschool to Year 10 to take responsibility for their own learning and how to communicate their ideas using academically honest practices.

What is good academic practice at Gold Creek School?

Academically honest practices include an understanding of intellectual property, plagiarism and the authoring of original ideas and conclusions. Any references and sources used to develop those ideas are correctly acknowledged and cited. Academic integrity includes accurate citations from the student's work, and this is a key element to intellectual exchange and academic scholarship. When students cite properly, they:

- demonstrate respect for the work of others
- show their skills in being able to use and critically assess the reliability of sources to support their work or inquiries
- give the audience the opportunity to cross reference
- help the reader distinguish their work from the work of others
- give the audience the opportunity to validate the student's interpretation
- receive true credit for their research process
- establish authority and credibility of their own ideas and knowledge, and demonstrate their ability to draw their own conclusions.

Rights and Responsibilities

Gold Creek School is expected to:

- Develop, implement, and clearly communicate the Academic Integrity Policy and a clear set of written procedures that promote quality academic practice. This information also supports the guidelines outlined in the Assessment and Reporting Policy.
- Provide support and professional learning opportunities for teachers to ensure they keep abreast of any new and emerging pedagogical practices related to the teaching of good academic practice.
- Provide opportunities for parents, carers, teachers and students to understand the meaning and importance of academic integrity and ensure the community is familiar with this policy and associated procedures.
- Nominate the Harvard System as the formal referencing system across the whole school.
- Ensure emphasis is placed on the education of academic integrity and prevention of related breaches, rather than the consequences of academic dishonesty.
- Ensure data on any breaches of academic malpractice and outcomes is well-maintained on the School Administrative System (SAS).

Teachers are expected to support good academic practice by:

- Modelling academic integrity practices such as acknowledging sources of information.
- Providing students with timely and effective feedback on their research skills through regular assessment.

- Designing assessment tasks that invite student agency, encourage authenticity and are less likely to tempt students to plagiarise.
- Ensuring opportunities are in place to be able to monitor students' writing processes in a reasonable manner by allowing them to submit drafts, take part in peer review, self-assessments and a variety of formative activities that explicitly teach the five skill sets outlined in the IB Approaches to Learning framework.
- Accessing the resources and services available through the Gold Creek School's PYP and MYP Libraries and other relevant networks and external stakeholders such as the ACT Public Libraries.
- Following the process outlined in the GCS Academic Integrity Procedure if a breach of academic integrity has been suspected.

Students are expected to:

- Submit work which is based on their own authentic ideas.
- Make it clear which works, words, images and ideas are not their own by correctly citing each source.
- Use their time management effectively to avoid the temptation to copy or not cite accurately.
- Use the *School Library Association of South Australia (SLASA) Online Referencing Generator* available on Oliver to assist with accurate citations.
- Submit the Declaration of Original Work when submitting Summative Assessments.
- Check with the teacher to see what level of assistance is permitted (for example with a tutor or parent).
- Know what constitutes academic malpractice and the consequences relating to breaches of academic integrity.

Parents are expected to:

- Understand and support the school's Academic Integrity Policy and its importance in their child's long-term education and personal development.
- Encourage honest and principled behaviour at home, discussing the value of producing one's own work and giving credit to others.
- Foster good study habits, such as effective time management, to reduce the pressure that can lead to academic malpractice.
- Provide appropriate support by helping their child understand concepts, but refrain from completing, editing, or re-writing their work for them.
- Communicate with teachers if they have questions about the level of assistance permitted on a particular assignment or if they have concerns about their child's academic honesty.

The Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Gold Creek School recognises that Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a powerful emerging technology that can be a valuable tool for learning when used ethically and responsibly. Our approach is to educate students on how to engage with AI honestly, critically, and transparently, in line with the IB's principles of academic integrity.

Just as students must acknowledge the work of human authors, they must also be transparent about their use of AI tools. Presenting AI-generated work as one's own is a form of academic malpractice, as it undermines the process of learning and the development of authentic student skills.

Appropriate Use of AI Tools

- Students are encouraged to use AI tools as a partner to support their learning process. Acceptable uses, when properly acknowledged, may include:
- Brainstorming and exploring ideas: Using AI to generate initial thoughts or different perspectives on a topic.
- Improving grammar and clarity: Using AI as a sophisticated proofreading tool to refine language in their own original writing.
- Summarising complex texts for understanding: Using AI to get the gist of a dense article before reading it thoroughly.
- Practising and quizzing: Using AI to generate practice questions to test their own knowledge.

Unacceptable Use of AI (Academic Malpractice)

The following are considered breaches of academic integrity and constitute academic malpractice:

- Submitting AI-generated work as one's own: Copying and pasting text, ideas, code, or images from an AI tool into an assignment without permission and citation.
- Paraphrasing AI-generated content without citation: Using AI to rephrase information and presenting it as original thought.

- Using AI for tasks that assess specific skills: For example, using an AI tool to write a language translation when the task is to assess the student's own translation skills.
- Falsifying data or citations: Using AI to generate fabricated sources or data.

Student Responsibilities for Using AI

To maintain academic integrity, students are expected to:

- Always be transparent: Students must clearly acknowledge and cite any use of AI tools in their work, as guided by their teacher and the school's citation practices. This includes specifying which tool was used and for what purpose.
- Take ownership of their work: Students are ultimately responsible for the validity, accuracy, and integrity of their submitted assignments. They must critically evaluate any information provided by AI and be prepared to defend their final work as their own.
- Seek clarification: If a student is unsure whether a particular use of AI is permissible for an assignment, they must ask their teacher for guidance before using the tool.

What is academic malpractice?

Academic malpractice is behaviour that is either intentional or inadvertent. This may result in the student gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment tasks (or behaviour that disadvantages other students). Different forms of unacceptable academic practices at Gold Creek School include plagiarism, collusion, duplication of work, misconduct and paraphrasing or summarising the work of others with no acknowledgement.

Actions taken:

- For all issues relating to Academic Integrity, the *Gold Creek School Academic Integrity Procedure Document* will be followed. This is available on the school website and on Oliver, the Library Management System.



Daniel Breen
Principal



Laura Sharp
Board Chair

School Board Issue Date: 1 September 2021	Review Date: at Board discretion
<p>Related Documents: Gold Creek School Academic Integrity Procedure document – Gold Creek School website and via the Digital Backpack > Oliver > LearnPath Guides > Academic Integrity. <i>MYP From Principles into Practice</i> (IB 2021), <i>Academic Integrity</i> (IB 2019), <i>Effective Citing and Referencing</i> (IB 2014).</p> <p>Reference List: Standard - Culture through policy implementation (from Principals into Practice) Culture 1.1,2,3. Culture 3.1,2,3,4,5. Culture 5.1, 5. Culture 6.1,2,5</p>	