



LAURIER MACDONALD HIGH SCHOOL

MIDDLE YEARS PROGRAM

Academic Integrity Policy

Laurier Macdonald High School fosters an environment that promotes ethical values and intellectual honesty. Academic honesty is expected from our entire school community and administrators, students, teachers, and parents must all be involved in the process. The International Baccalaureate defines the principle of academic honesty as “a set of values and skills that promote personal integrity and good practice in teaching, learning and assessment”.

(MYP: From principles into practice p.77)

IB Learner Profile

The learner profile is the IB mission statement in action and is an important part of the school’s educational project. Academic honesty incorporates all learner profile attributes but focuses on Principled and Communicator as stated in the Academic Honesty section of the IB educational context 2014: “Academic honesty is part of being ‘principled’, a learner profile attribute where learners strive to ‘act with integrity and honesty’ as we question, inquire and act. As for a communicator, students must express their ideas in many ways and collaborate effectively by sharing and acknowledging others’ ideas.”

Approaches to Learning

Approaches to Learning are skills developed throughout the MYP and help to develop communication, collaboration, and research skills. Students build upon these skills throughout their five years as they learn to take responsibility for their actions, paraphrase concisely, and evaluate and select sources.

Practices

It is necessary to reference and cite the ideas of others when communicating. Failure to do so is to declare ownership of someone else’s idea(s) or work. This includes using direct quotes and paraphrasing without giving credit to the original author. A student caught participating in an act of plagiarism and/or collusion may be assigned a grade of 0. Since Laurier Macdonald High School fosters an environment that encourages academic honesty, as of Y1, students are taught the MLA citation format when referencing the work of others and are provided with explicit

instruction on appropriate referencing procedures. They can also access various Internet referencing resources as well as the referencing tool in Microsoft Word.

At each level, students must attend a workshop on research skills and intellectual property with the school librarian. This helps the students acquire appropriate work ethics and reduces malpractices.

Administrators, teachers, support staff and parents all play an important role in promoting academic integrity.

Administration team:

The Administration team is responsible of the application of the policy and ensure that teachers are enforcing the policy. They must ensure that the students understand the policy and the consequences of not following the rules.

Student responsibilities:

Students are expected to submit authentic and original work. They are responsible for completing all assignments, homework, and evaluation themselves. They are expected to use the proper citation format and to reference the work of others.

Teacher responsibilities:

Teachers must apply the policy and teach the students the proper citation tools. They must support students by teaching them the proper presentation requirements. They must ensure that the pieces of work submitted are authentic and that students are not cheating during evaluations. When this occurs, they must meet with the students and inform both the parents and the administrative team.

Parent responsibilities:

The parents must support the policy. They must to encourage their child to respect the rights and the intellectual property of others. If their child is caught plagiarizing in class, they should accept the consequences and be mindful that it is a learning experience.

Laurier Macdonald High School applies the following IB academic misconduct definitions as stated in MYP: From Principles into practice (May 2014 p.94):

The IB program defines academic misconduct as behaviour that results in, or may result in, the student or any other student gaining an unfair advantage in one or more assessment components.

Plagiarism—the representation, intentionally or unwittingly, of the ideas, words or work of another person without proper, clear and explicit acknowledgment

Collusion—supporting academic misconduct by another student, as in allowing one’s work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another

Duplication of work—the presentation of the same work for different assessment components

Any other behaviour that gives an unfair advantage to a student or that affects the results of another student (falsifying data, misconduct during an examination, creating spurious reflections).

Laurier Macdonald High School will ensure all infractions of this academic honesty policy will be communicated to the student and parents. Laurier Macdonald High School will also ensure that all stakeholders have access to this policy by posting it on the school website.

References:

International Baccalaureate Organization, Middle Years Programme MYP: From principles into practice, Published May 2014 Updated September 2014, September 2017

Laurier Macdonald High School agenda, school year 2020-2021, p.13-14.