



# Homestead Middle School International Baccalaureate Academic Honesty Policy



Academic Honesty is to be truthful about your work. This means doing your own work even if your friend offers you help on a test. It also means doing your own research and properly citing your resources.

At Homestead Middle School (HMS), an IB Middle Year Programme (MYP), we value honesty and academic integrity. We encourage all our students to conduct themselves in a responsible way and expect them to avoid any academic malpractice. The school believes that honesty and integrity are the base for developing character traits. Our students should at all times strive to become principled and thinkers, and refrained from cheating or creating false impressions of their classwork. Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to:

**COLLUSION:** This involves deliberately allowing your own work to be copied or submitted for assessment by another student.

**DUPLICATION of WORK:** This means turning in the same work for different assignments.

**PLAGIARISM:** Presenting another person’s intellectual property (work) as your own (i.e. written words, ideas, visual images, auditory expressions or any material that comes from another source, including the Internet). Even material that has been paraphrased in the student’s own words is considered plagiarized material unless proper credit or explicit reference is given to the original author.

**DISHONEST PRACTICE:** Any behavior which gains an unfair advantage for getting a grade that is not from you. For example: taking unauthorized material into an examination room, misconduct during an examination, obtaining unauthorized access to examination material, the use of a calculator or other means of arriving at an answer when this is precluded.

### **HOW CAN I AVOID ACADEMIC DISHONESTY?**

- Be organized and give yourself time to do the work properly. Last minute work often lends itself to cutting corners which may lead to academic dishonesty.
- When you do research, keep good records of where you have found your information. For example, record the URL and date of webpages you access in case they disappear later.
- In classroom exams, be cautious; and distance yourself from others to reduce the temptation to look.
- Don’t post your papers on websites.
- Be free to consult your teacher for assistance whenever needed.

### **CONSEQUENCES:**

According to MDCPS Code of Conduct cheating and other forms of misrepresentation are considered *Level II Behavior Violation* and as such is considered a seriously disruptive behavior. Therefore, breaches of the IB MYP Homestead Middle School Academic Honesty regulations will be as followed:

- Student Teachers Circle addressing the problem.
- Parents/Guardians will be contacted.
- Work might not be graded which will result in a “Z”/Zero/No Credit. (Not that this is at the Teachers’ discretion)
- Student may need to re-do the work, judgment or evaluation.
- Second offense may result in Administration corrective strategies.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_ Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_