

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

What is Academic Integrity?

Academic integrity in early childhood education is a guiding principle we foster to teach our students to act responsibly when they are producing and creating their schoolwork. Academic integrity begins at an early age at Fairmont and is the responsibility of our school community including Leadership, teachers, non-teaching staff, students, and parents. Our school community is committed to reinforcing academic integrity to our students through age-appropriate activities and modeling of ethical decision-making. It is our goal for our PYP students to develop an early understanding of creating their own authentic work independently and in group situations.

Our Purpose and Approach to Academic Integrity

The purpose of our Academic Integrity Policy is to introduce our young learners to a culture of honesty and fairness as they learn and share new concepts and information with each other. Through our units of inquiry, our students expand their curiosity, knowledge, and critical thinking skills through large group and small group activities. Through these activities and discussions, the students are encouraged to share their own ideas and to acknowledge where they learned their information. As students mature, they are able to cite their resources such as the name of a book, a TV documentary, the news, or a website. We believe that the introduction of academic integrity is the responsibility of our entire school community and an important first step to the child's future learning and sharing of knowledge.

Expectations and Responsibilities of Our School Community

Academic Integrity is the responsibility of the entire school community. Each member of the community plays an important role in their commitment and support of the policy. Responsibilities for school community members are listed below:

Responsibilities of IB Coordinator and Head of School

The Leadership Team which consists of the IB Coordinator and the Head of school provide guidance and strategies to the teachers to support the implementation of our Academic Integrity Policy. Strategies are developed collaboratively among the IB Coordinator, Head of School and the Teachers.

Responsibilities of the Teachers

The teachers are responsible for weaving the components of the academic integrity policy into the units of inquiry taught in their classrooms. Collaborative strategies used by all teachers include the Learner Profile Attributes the following ways:

1. Encouraging students to share their knowledge and original work with others in an accurate and honest manner.
1. Encourage students to share resources on how they learned their knowledge. (ie book, newspaper, website, etc)
2. Teachers model ethical decision-making to their students through role-play activities.
3. Students share their own ideas and do not rely on the work of others to share their thoughts.
4. At the Kindergarten level students are introduced to and practice citing their resources throughout their writings.
5. At the Preschool level students begin to incorporate conversations about the importance of doing your own work, and being creative.

Responsibilities of the Students

The students are encouraged to take an active role in their learning. Through the Learner Profile, students learn to distinguish between right and wrong. Students are supported by their teachers, program coordinator, and Head of School in developing the Learner Profile throughout their daily activities and learn to understand what they mean. As students progress through the program they are able to describe the attributes and identify when their friends and teachers are displaying them. The attribute of Principled is especially important as it relates to academic integrity to promote honesty, responsibility, and ethics in the decision-making process of knowledge and thinking.



Responsibilities of the Parents and Legal Guardians

Parents and Guardians are responsible for reinforcing and supporting all policies of Fairmont Private School. The Parent's participation in the education process is crucial and detrimental to their child's success in the program. Parents and Guardians are expected to encourage their children to follow the rules, complete classroom work, and to support Academic Integrity in the following ways:

- Understand IB policies, procedures, and classroom expectations
- Support their children's understanding of IB policies, procedures, and learner profile.
- Understand expectations and responsibilities of the school community
- Keep informed of school and classroom events and curriculum through weekly and monthly newsletters
- Support Academic Integrity through the learner profile

Policy Review

Academic Integrity Policy will be reviewed by all stakeholders annually

