

# Lesher's Student Academic Honesty Policy

Written by Lesher Staff based on IB Academic Honesty Policy Statement (2024)

Lesher students are expected to be • inquirers • principled • thinkers. Academic honesty connects with the IB learner profile and Lesher's mission statement which links to students' developing competencies in self-management, research, thinking, and communication.

Students are flooded with shared information and shared opinions, making the concept of intellectual property difficult to understand. The key is to guide them in building an understanding of how and when to reference other people's work, giving **explicit** credit to the original source.

The goal of the academic honesty policy is to provide skills and knowledge for students to become lifelong learners acting with integrity in all aspects of life: school, work, and play.

Student's Responsibility	Teacher Responsibility	Parent/Guardian Responsibility
Make your work personal and write using your own "voice."	Communicate expectations you have for students by clearly referring to the academic honesty guidelines for each assignment.	Encourage your student to ask their teachers for advice if they are having difficulties with their work.
Acknowledge help and resources used by correct citations and referrals.	Encourage honesty and communicate the consequences of academic dishonesty. (See Academic Honesty Contract)	Establish a good level of communication with the school so that you understand the expectations students are held to. (See Academic Honesty Contract)
Allow yourself time to do the work properly.	Make the Approaches to Learning (ATL) skills an explicit focus for teaching and learning, particularly citing and referencing sources.	Support your child, but be sure he or she is the one responsible for the work done.
Submit work that is an authentic representation of YOUR skills and abilities.	Provide practice, scaffolds, and frameworks for citing and references formats.	
Familiarize yourself with what constitutes academic misconduct. (See Academic Honesty Contract)		

Academic misconduct includes:

1. Collusion: allowing another student to use your work and present it as their own.
2. Plagiarism: presenting another's work, ideas, or images as your own without an explicit, proper citation.
3. Cheating: copying from another student or using another source to complete a task.

Statement on Generative AI:

IB is a program that values innovation and curiosity, and encourages the exploration of new technologies. We also recognize the growing importance of generative AI tools such as ChatGPT; however, students need to be aware that the IB does not regard any work produced—even only in part—by such tools to be their own. Therefore, as with any quote or material from another source, it must be clear that any AI-generated text, image or graph included in a piece of work has been copied from such software. The inclusion of a reference at the end of the paper is not enough; the citation must be included at the point of use and linked to a full reference in the bibliography. If this is not done, the student would be misrepresenting content—as it was not originally written by them—which is a form of academic misconduct.

On writing assessments, the use of AI tools is **not** permitted. The IB allows students to use basic tools to support their spelling and grammar when this is not what is being assessed.

-Adapted from the IBO's Academic integrity policy

# Academic Honesty Contract

I (student name), \_\_\_\_\_, understand that collusion, plagiarism, and/or cheating violates Lesher Middle School's Academic Honesty Policy. Due to my violation my parent(s)/guardian(s) will be notified by phone, I will write one paragraph that will be signed by my parent(s)/guardian(s), the office will be notified, my assignment will initially receive a zero, and I will redo the assignment showing my own work. Any additional violations will result in a referral and may result in either in-school or out-of school suspension.

As an IB student you are expected to comply with PSDs Student Code of Conduct and strive to achieve the IB Learner Profile Attributes (Balanced, Caring, Communicator, Inquirer, Knowledgeable, Open-Minded, Principled, Reflective, Risk-Taker and Thinker). Cheating is regarded as dishonest and deceitful and does not demonstrate the IB attributes of Inquirer, Principled, and Thinker. At Lesher, we believe in being accountable for meeting high standards and expectations for academic and personal success.

Please discuss this with your parent(s)/guardian(s); complete the checklist and turn in to your teacher by \_\_\_\_\_.

Student signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

## Checklist

If a student is caught in a situation where academic integrity is in question then the following will occur:

- \_\_\_\_ 1) The student will write one hand-written paragraph explaining the situation and reflect on their actions. Turn in a copy to your teacher.
- \_\_\_\_ 2) The student will call home and explain that they have been involved in academic misconduct.
- \_\_\_\_ 3) The student will initially receive a zero for the assignment and then redo the assignment showing their own work.
- \_\_\_\_ 4) The office will be notified of the violation.
- \_\_\_\_ 5) The student and parent/guardian will sign and return the Academic Integrity Contract.