



Abbotsford Senior Secondary School
IB Diploma Programme
Academic Honesty Policy
Last Revised: April 2026



At Abbotsford Senior Secondary School, we recognize that rapidly evolving digital technologies, including artificial intelligence (AI), have significantly changed how students access, generate, and engage with information. While these tools can enhance learning, they also present new challenges to academic integrity. All Pre-Diploma and IB students are expected to submit work that is authentic, properly attributed, and a true representation of their own understanding and academic ability. The school fully supports the International Baccalaureate Organization's commitment to academic integrity as a foundational principle of the Diploma Programme.

Academic integrity is embedded in IB philosophy and reflected in the Learner Profile, particularly through the development of principled, knowledgeable, and reflective learners. Students are expected to conduct research honestly, make ethical decisions in their academic work, and take responsibility for acknowledging all sources of information and support. This includes critically engaging with information and demonstrating independence in thinking, even when using digital tools.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Use

The use of artificial intelligence must be approached with care and transparency. AI tools may only be used when explicitly permitted by the teacher and must be clearly acknowledged by the student. Such tools are intended to support learning rather than replace it. Submitting AI-generated content as one's own work, paraphrasing AI outputs without acknowledgment, or using AI to complete assignments or assessments that require independent effort constitutes academic misconduct. Students are also expected to recognize that AI-generated content may be inaccurate or biased and must therefore be evaluated critically.

What is Cheating?

Cheating is defined as any action that provides an unfair academic advantage. This includes, but is not limited to, giving or receiving unauthorized assistance, accessing or sharing assessment materials, using unapproved technology such as AI tools, or submitting work completed by another person or system. Plagiarism occurs when a student presents another person's or source's ideas, words, or structure as their own without appropriate acknowledgment. This definition extends to content generated by AI or other digital tools when it is not properly cited or when it replaces the student's own thinking.

Academic integrity is demonstrated through proper citation of all sources, including AI tools when used, the use of one's own words and ideas in paraphrasing, and the acknowledgment of any assistance received. Students are expected to follow all assessment guidelines, submit only original work unless collaboration is explicitly permitted, and seek clarification from teachers when unsure about expectations. Responsible use of technology is essential, and any use of digital tools must align with teacher guidance and school policy.

Interventions

Incidents of academic misconduct are addressed through a progressive system of consequences. Minor infractions are managed by the classroom teacher and may result in a zero on the assignment, parent contact, and documentation of the incident. More serious or repeated offences are handled by the DP Coordinator and school administration and may involve formal meetings with parents, suspension, or removal from IB courses. Severe violations, such as examination theft, falsification of records, or deliberate and extensive academic fraud, may result in removal from the IB Programme or the school.