

# Toomer Elementary School Academic Honesty Policy



## **Purpose**

According to the document [Academic honesty in the IB educational context](#), “An academic honesty policy ensures that a school’s procedures for this practice are transparent, fair and consistent. It describes the rights and responsibilities of all members of the school community so that everyone understands what constitutes good practice, and misconduct, and what actions are to be taken if there are transgressions. The policy should be dynamic and ensure that students are taught good practice in all aspects of their work.”

## **Definition of Academic Honesty**

At Toomer, we define academic honesty as a way of constructing knowledge where all original ideas receive credit. This looks different through different contexts, such as individual assessment, group work, and research projects. No matter the situation, we look to seek out the owner of particular knowledge and give credit to these creators. This policy will lay out the roles and responsibilities of all stakeholders in different situations.

## **Student Responsibilities**

- Demonstrate principled behavior when engaging in any school activities.
- Practice self-management
- Produce authentic work and (age-appropriately) cite original creators when necessary
- Take responsibility for creative work and choices when contributing to a group project
- Create work that is authentic and representative of their knowledge and understanding

## **Teacher Responsibilities**

- Teachers will model and provide opportunities for students to cite original work within their assignments

- Provide a safe environment for students to practice and learn self-management and academic honesty skills
- Employ the use of the approaches to learning skills as the basis for academic honesty and integrity
- Engage with students during learning activities

### **School Responsibilities**

- Model academic integrity across all school platforms
- Provide professional development as needed to ensure staff are aware of academic honesty policies and practices
- Support all parties in the event that academic dishonesty does occur

### **Parent Responsibilities**

- Communicate openly with teachers about the work students complete independently at home
- Emphasize importance and honor independently created student work

### **Academic Dishonesty**

In the PYP, we treat incidents of academic dishonesty as a learning opportunity. We believe most cases of academic dishonesty arise when a student is unaware of how to properly cite the ideas of another person. If a student fails to do this properly, we will work with the student to correct their piece using the proper citations.

We believe it is the responsibility of every student and staff member to exhibit honesty, responsibility, and integrity in their academic endeavors. This creates an overall positive learning environment where students and staff are safe to make mistakes and learn from them.

### **Policy Review**

This policy was created by the Toomer Pedagogical Leadership Team. It was created utilizing input from all stakeholders. The IB Coordinator is responsible for ensuring that this policy is reviewed annually.