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## **Academic Integrity Policy Belgrano Day School**

### **IB Diploma Programme 2025**

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#### **1. Introduction**

Aligned with our motto \*Fac Recte\* (“Act rightly”), this policy defines principles, responsibilities, and expectations regarding academic integrity at BDS.

This document was developed in collaboration with faculty members and is based on the academic integrity guidelines of the International Baccalaureate, the University of Cambridge, the University of Oxford, Pennsylvania State University, and Belgrano Day School's [residential agreements](#). Its objective is to foster a culture of responsibility, honesty, and academic excellence.

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#### **2. Definition**

Academic integrity is the principle and conscious decision to act responsibly so that others can trust us. As established by the IB:

"Both teachers and students are expected to be honest and transparent, and to recognize how previous work influences and supports their own work." (IB, 2023)

In this sense, we adhere to the definition of plagiarism established by the University of Oxford:

“Presenting the work or ideas of another source as one's own, with or without the consent of the original author, incorporating it into the work without due acknowledgment.” (Oxford, n.d.)

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#### **3. Behaviors that constitute a breach of academic integrity**

The following are considered forms of academic misconduct:

- **Plagiarism:** Copying others' ideas or work in part or in full without proper attribution.



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- **Collusion:** Collaborating with others and presenting the results as individual work without acknowledgment; allowing others to use collaborative work without citing it.
  - **Contract cheating:** Asking a third party (including AI software) to produce work that is then presented as one's own.
  - **Fabrication or falsification of data:** Altering, inventing, or presenting false data, results, sources, records, or signatures.
  - **Submitting previously submitted work:** Using work already submitted in other courses or courses without the instructor's express authorization. (Penn State University, 2024)
  - **Misuse of artificial intelligence:** Submitting work generated in part or in full by AI platforms without specific permission for that activity.
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#### 4. Student Commitments

IBDP students at Belgrano Day School commit to:

- Be the authors of their own work.
- Acknowledge and properly cite the sources used.
- Ask for guidance when unsure about what constitutes plagiarism or acceptable collaboration.
- Actively participate in promoting an ethical learning environment.

As part of this commitment, students accept the [rules of coexistence](#) that establish standards of plagiarism and academic honesty.

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#### 5. Teacher and Institutional Role

BDS teachers and administrators have the responsibility to:

- Teach, reinforce, and model the principles of academic integrity.
- Design activities and assessments that encourage critical and original thinking.
- Support and guide students in the correct use of technological sources and tools.
- Act consistently and fairly in situations of alleged breaches of integrity.



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## **6. Consequences of academic misconduct**

In the event of a proven breach of academic integrity, proportional measures will be applied, which may include:

- Formal warning and additional guidance.
- Repetition of the assignment under special conditions.
- Grade of zero on the assigned assessment.
- Communication with families and pedagogical follow-up.
- In repeated or serious cases, possible exclusion from taking the IB Diploma.

Each situation will be evaluated by the IB team in conjunction with the Academic Director, prioritizing student development and maintaining an ethical learning environment.

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## **7. Why is academic integrity important?**

In the words of our institutional prayer: "We are honest, we do our work well, and we think of others." Academic integrity is not only a value, but a condition for learning deeply, challenging our abilities, and building authentic pride in our achievements.

Respect for integrity is also a foundation for developing 21st-century competencies: critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, collaboration, citizenship (global and local), and creativity.

To assertively implement the policy, the institution will provide specific guidance on expected behaviors at each stage of the academic journey, considering the maturity and academic level of students. This guidance will include training opportunities both inside and outside the classroom and will be updated periodically. This will take place in various tutorials, special assemblies, and subject-specific classes, where explicit examples will be provided to differentiate between correct and incorrect academic practices, including: how to properly prepare citations and bibliographic references, in accordance with the required styles (APA) and illustrative cases of unacceptable practices, such as plagiarism, misuse of AI, cheating in assessments, identity theft, among others.



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In the event of a suspected violation, a clear procedure will be followed, including formal reports by the teacher, a documented record of the situation, supervision by the academic coordination team and/or the principal, and transparent communication with the student and their family.

In the context of the IB Diploma Programme, misconduct may also have consequences for **external assessments**, in accordance with IB regulations, and may result in the cancellation of work or even the non-awarding of the diploma.

If a student is suspected of having violated the academic integrity policy, their right to be informed in a clear and timely manner will be guaranteed, as well as their right to be heard and to offer their defense, as well as support from an institutional representative (tutor, teacher, or coordinator).

Likewise, consequences proportional to the misconduct will be established, which may include corrective measures, penalties, and follow-up on each case. Students will also be informed about the potential repercussions of such behavior on external assessments.

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## **8. Review and dissemination**

The policy was developed by the Humanities Department, the Guidance Center, and the Administration. This policy will be reviewed annually by the IB team and clearly communicated to students and families through institutional announcements and informational newsletters. It will also be available on the school's website.

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## **References**

- International Baccalaureate Organization. (2023). Academic integrity.  
<https://www.ibo.org/programmes/about-assessment/academic-integrity>
- University of Cambridge. (2019). Definition of plagiarism.  
<https://www.plagiarism.admin.cam.ac.uk/definition>
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- The Pennsylvania State University. (2024). Submitting Work Previously Used.

<https://academicintegrity.psu.edu/courses/academic-integrity/other-serious-violations/submitting-work-previously-used>