



Academic Integrity Policy

Rationale

Inculcating strong values and ideals in each student and enabling them to grow as good Christians and honest citizens is fundamental to the evangelising mission of St John Bosco College. This emphasis on developing integrity, which encompasses honesty, truthfulness, responsibility and reliability, permeates all aspects of College life, including academic pursuits. The accuracy, reliability and validity of assessment and reporting practices relies upon students conducting themselves in an ethical manner in demonstrating their own academic ability.

Definitions

Academic Integrity is a term used to describe honest and ethical behaviour in relation to academic work (student homework, assessments, performance tasks and conduct in exams or in-class tasks).

Academic misconduct is a term used to describe any act by a student that fails to meet the accepted standards of academic integrity. This includes any unfair advantage gained by a student, eg, a student who arrives late before an assessment task without reason, who is absent the day before an assessment task to prepare for that task.

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's words, ideas, thoughts, opinions, data or images as one's own. Plagiarism includes:

- copying, summarising or paraphrasing material from any source without acknowledgment;
- using another's ideas without acknowledgment;
- working jointly with others and then presenting it as your own;
- submitting work that has been done in whole or part by another student;
- other actions that may contradict the principles of academic integrity.

Principles

At St John Bosco College we believe that:

1. students have an obligation to be honest, truthful and just when undertaking academic activities,
2. ethical conduct contributes to creating and sustaining a climate of fairness and equity amongst all students,
3. academic integrity enhances the authenticity, reliability and validity of assessment tasks, thus allowing a more accurate assessment of a student's achievement in relation to a set of standards referenced criteria,
4. a culture of academic integrity is fostered and promoted when it is:
 - a. viewed from a whole school perspective,
 - b. accepted as the responsibility of all teachers, students and administrative personnel,
 - c. explicitly addressed, taught, modelled, discussed and reinforced,
 - d. supported by clear expectations of students and common practices adopted throughout the whole school,
5. academic misconduct is a serious matter and that there should be appropriate guidelines to deal with allegations of academic misconduct.

Responsibilities of students

1. Encourage and support academic integrity as a characteristic of a holistic person.
2. Do your own work and make every effort to prevent the occurrence of academic misconduct.
3. Set an example for other students by modelling good academic conduct and integrity.
4. Refrain from assisting other students in any attempts to violate the academic integrity policy.
5. Consider ways to minimise acts or intentions of academic misconduct.

A school that prepares for life

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