



Newton International Academy, Barwa

Academic Integrity Policy

*An International Community of
Learners, Striving for Excellence and
Celebrating Success*



NEWTON
INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY | **BARWA**

Vision

An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success.

Mission

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for our students of all abilities. In doing so, we aim to positively encourage each student to achieve academic excellence, enjoy creative diversity, develop critical thinking skills, and become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

To achieve this, we will provide a diverse education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline and motivation. We will provide and maintain a calm, trusting, and caring atmosphere where teaching and learning are meaningful and developed. We will work in partnership with our staff, students, parents, and the wider community to achieve our vision.

Rationale

The rationale behind this Academic Integrity Policy is to cultivate an educational environment founded on honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility. This policy serves as a foundational document outlining clear expectations for every member of our school community—students, staff, and parents—regarding academic honesty. We believe that academic integrity is essential for fostering a culture where students develop a deep understanding of ethical scholarship, take ownership of their learning, and respect the intellectual contributions of others.

Aim

The aim of this policy is to define academic integrity as a commitment to honesty and responsibility in all academic work. It ensures that all submitted work is the student's own and that all sources are properly acknowledged. This policy encompasses a set of values and skills that promote ethical conduct in learning, teaching, and research, ultimately striving for excellence in every aspect of learning.

Newton Group Values:

 Support	 Honesty	 Respect	 Transparent Communication	 Social Responsibility	 Personal Accountability	 Environmental Awareness	 Empathy	 Diversity
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1. Upholding Academic Principles

Our approach to academic integrity is built upon core principles that guide daily practice:

- **Honesty:** All academic work must be truthful and accurately represent the student's own efforts and understanding.
- **Trust:** We foster an environment where students can be confident that their peers are submitting original work, and teachers can trust that the work submitted is genuinely the student's.
- **Fairness:** We ensure all students have an equal opportunity to demonstrate their learning, recognising that academic dishonesty undermines this equity.
- **Respect:** Students acknowledge the intellectual property of others through proper citation and avoid plagiarism, while teachers show respect for students' efforts by providing clear guidelines and fair assessment.
- **Responsibility:** Students are accountable for understanding and adhering to the policy, while staff are responsible for educating students about these principles and enforcing the policy consistently.

2. Defining and Addressing Academic Dishonesty

Academic dishonesty encompasses a range of actions that undermine the integrity of learning and assessment:

- **Plagiarism:** Presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own without proper acknowledgment, including copying text directly, paraphrasing without citation, submitting work written by another person, or using AI tools to generate content without disclosure or teacher permission.
- **Cheating:** Any dishonest act related to an assessment, such as copying during exams, using unauthorised materials, sharing answers, or obtaining test information illicitly.
- **Collusion:** Working together on an assignment intended to be individual work without explicit teacher permission, distinguishing it from legitimate collaboration.
- **Fabrication and Falsification:** Inventing or altering information, data, or sources, including making up data for projects, citing non-existent sources, or altering official documents.
- **Impersonation:** One person taking an exam or completing an assignment for another is a serious breach of integrity.



3. Shared Responsibilities

The successful implementation of this policy is a collective responsibility:

Students: Expected to understand and adhere to the policy, submit only their own original work, properly cite all sources, seek clarification from teachers when unsure, and report any observed instances of academic dishonesty.

Teachers: Responsible for clearly communicating the policy, educating students on proper research and citation, designing assessments that minimise opportunities for dishonesty, modelling academic integrity, addressing suspected incidents fairly, and providing learning opportunities from mistakes.

Parents: Encouraged to support the policy at home, promote their children's responsibility for their own work, refrain from completing assignments for their children, and discuss the importance of honesty and ethical behaviour.

4. Procedures for Addressing Breaches

When an instance of suspected academic dishonesty occurs, a clear procedure will be followed to ensure fairness and consistency:

1. Investigation: The teacher will investigate the incident, gathering evidence and speaking with the student(s) involved.

2. Meeting: A meeting will be held with the student to discuss the evidence and allow them to provide an explanation.

3. Notification: If academic dishonesty is confirmed, parents will be promptly notified of the incident and the consequences.

4. Consequences: Applied fairly and consistently, considering the student's age, the severity of the offence, and whether it is a first or repeat occurrence. Consequences may include re-doing the assignment, receiving a reduced grade or a zero, detention, exclusion from extracurricular activities, suspension from school for serious or repeated offences, or a record being kept in the student's file.

The focus of any consequence will always be on educating the student about academic integrity and preventing future occurrences, reinforcing the learning aspect of the policy.



5. Impact of the Policy

The impact of this Academic Integrity Policy will be profound, fostering a culture where genuine achievement is celebrated, and excellence is truly strived for across all academic endeavours. We anticipate a measurable increase in students' understanding and application of ethical academic practises, leading to a learning environment where intellectual honesty is the norm.

Enhanced Learning: Students will demonstrate a deeper understanding of course material as they engage in authentic learning processes, developing critical research, analytical, and communication skills.

Stronger Character Development: Students will cultivate self-reliance, resilience, and a sense of pride in their earned accomplishments, aligning directly with our vision of celebrating success.

Positive Academic Environment: The policy will create an atmosphere of trust and fairness among students, teachers, and parents, strengthening the school's reputation as an institution that upholds high academic standards.

6. Monitoring and Review

We will monitor the impact of this policy through various means, including regular reviews of academic misconduct incidents, student and staff feedback on understanding and adherence to the policy, and observations of classroom practises that promote integrity. This continuous evaluation will ensure the policy remains effective and relevant to the evolving academic landscape, allowing us to refine our approach and further strengthen our commitment to celebrating success and striving for excellence through unwavering academic integrity.

