



STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC HONESTY- WROTHAM SCHOOL- AN IB WORLD SCHOOL

Approved- 2017

BACKGROUND

The IB Learner Profile is embedded in the daily life of all students at Wrotham School and, therefore, is the underpinning to this policy. Further guidance can be obtained from the IBO publication, Academic Honesty: Guidance for Schools, September 2012.

Our position as an IB world school means we encourage our students to be:

- * Inquirers – who acquire the skills necessary to conduct inquiry and research.
- * Knowledgeable – who explore concepts, ideas and issues.
- * Principled – who act with integrity and honesty, take responsibility for their own actions.
- * Open-minded – who are accustomed to seeking and evaluating a range of points of view.
- * Risk takers – who are courageous and articulate in defending their beliefs

These qualities, when applied to learning and student work, will establish skills and behaviour which support good practices to be found in the classroom, used for Independent Learning and continued to examination level and beyond into the world of work. The good practices are expected to be introduced, modelled and used by all students. These practices will also be clearly articulated in schemes of work and curriculum maps for the IBCP.

A POLICY STATEMENT

At Wrotham School we place a high value on honesty and integrity and this extends to work submitted for assessment. Our expectations are set out below. All members of the community need to be aware that we treat academic dishonesty or plagiarism as a very serious matter.

PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism can be defined as;

‘The practice of taking someone else's work or ideas and passing them off as one's own.’

In principle, plagiarism is not accepted at Wrotham School and will be dealt with accordingly. Students are to be encouraged at all times to develop their own thinking and ideas and to reference the ideas of others when needed.

CHEATING

Cheating can be defined as;

‘acting dishonestly or unfairly in order to gain an advantage.’

Wrotham School outlines ‘cheating’ as follows:

- 1) Copying classwork or independent learning
- 2) Concealing answers within an internal test and using these.
- 3) Cheating within an external exam.

All allegations of cheating will always be investigated and the consequences of such actions will be dealt with by the schools behaviour policies and if deemed of a very serious nature, by the regulations of the Examinations Boards, the IB and Ofqual.

CONSEQUENCES

In the first instance, work that is deemed to be academically dishonest will receive zero as a grade, (though the teacher may give some feedback to the student). This zero is likely to have a seriously detrimental effect on the grade for that piece of work. In addition, the concerned teacher will write to or email the student’s parents outlining the incident and how it has been dealt with. A copy of this letter/email will be forwarded to the IB programme co-ordinators.

In the event that there is a second instance of academic dishonesty, again the piece of work will receive no marks. In addition, parents will be asked to attend a meeting with the Head and Director of sixth form. This meeting will try to establish whether there was a clear attempt to deceive on the part of the student. Based on the meeting’s findings, a number of sanctions may be employed, such as having the student being put on report, which will be monitored by a progress tutor.

Subsequent instances of academic dishonesty will put the student at risk of losing their place at Wrotham School.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

The academically honest student will:

- Acknowledge where help has been given from parents, older students and friends.
- Acknowledge help from teachers and other adults
- Acknowledge the source of direct quotations, using the appropriate referencing guidelines.
- Acknowledge information taken from books and the Internet
- Acknowledge reference materials in a bibliography
- Know what constitutes cheating and abides by the rules
- Follow all exam rules.

In addition, Wrotham students will not:

- Use notes during a test unless allowed by a teacher
- Copy from another student during a test
- Copy from the homework of another student
- Hand in work as his/her own that has been copied
- Do homework for another student
- Give another student his/her own work to copy.

In order to ensure academic honesty, Wrotham School will provide all students with comprehensive training that ensures that their work meets the IBO guidelines.

REFERENCING

Unless otherwise directed by class teachers, Wrotham School students will use the Harvard Referencing system. Students and staff will take part in workshops run by the IBCP coordinator so that clear guidelines can be established and adhered to.