

# Academic Integrity Policy

## Philosophy

Academic integrity is a fundamental virtue in our community because it is a crucial part of our mission to help students think for themselves. Students are expected to honor that principle by being honest in every aspect of their academic life. Breaches of academic integrity, including plagiarism, collusion, and cheating, are serious violations of both school policy and the honorable behavior expected of each Renaissance Academy student.

## Standards

A student commits plagiarism when he/she borrows or imitates the wording, ideas, data or thoughts of another author, and represents them as his/her own original work. In all scholarly writing, students' work must appropriately credit the work of the original author or source. **All information received via the electronic media must be properly cited. Downloading papers off of the Internet and utilizing foreign language translators is strictly forbidden.** If a student is unsure about what information needs to be cited or how to properly document research, he/she should seek the help of his/her teachers.

Collusion happens when two or more students work together and one presents the work as his or her own. This includes presenting work as one's own after having received inappropriate assistance on homework, a paper, or other assignment. This does not mean that students cannot ask for help with their school work – if a student is unsure about what kind of help is appropriate, he/she should discuss his/her concerns with his/her Advisor.

We take cases of plagiarism, collusion, and cheating very seriously. All such incidents will be brought to the attention of student's parents. The teacher will meet with the parents and, if necessary, school Administration to review the matter and determine appropriate consequences.