

# École Secondaire Beaumont Composite High School

## Academic Integrity Policy

### The Importance of Academic Integrity

Our school values honesty, responsibility, and ethical learning practices. Academic integrity is the foundation of a meaningful education, ensuring that all students receive fair and accurate evaluations of their own understanding and hard work. Under the Alberta Education Act, students have a core responsibility to actively engage in and diligently pursue their education, comply with school rules, and be accountable to their teachers for their conduct. Upholding academic integrity ensures a fair, respectful, and trusting learning environment for the entire school community.

### What is Cheating?

Cheating is defined as any attempt to gain an unfair academic advantage or to represent the work of another person as your own. It includes plagiarism, using unauthorized assistance during assessments (exams, tests, assignments, etc.), and work-sharing.

A critical component of our policy addresses the difference between collaboration and collusion. "Helping a friend" by sending them your file or answers is considered an offence equal to copying; both the sender (the giver) and the receiver are held culpable and will face the same disciplinary action. Furthermore, the *intent* to cheat is treated as a severe violation, such as failing to hand in an electronic device when asked or secretly keeping a second device on your person during an assessment.

Category	Specific Offence Examples
Test Security Violations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sharing pictures of assessments or assessment content with peers.</li><li>• Getting answers for an assessment or assignment in advance. Stealing tests or assignments.</li><li>• Exploiting digital platform loopholes to bypass test security.</li></ul>
Unauthorized Devices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Failing to hand in all electronic devices (phones, smartwatches, smart glasses, etc.) prior to every assessment.</li><li>• Unauthorized use of technology or devices during an assessment.</li></ul>
Plagiarism & Sources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Submitting another person's work as your own.</li><li>• Using words or ideas from any source without proper documentation.</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Using any outside sources unless explicitly told to do so.</li> </ul>
Distribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Distributing course materials or your own completed work to other students.</li> </ul>

### Artificial Intelligence (AI) Usage

- **Submitting AI-Generated Work:** Submitting another person's work as your own explicitly includes the use of Artificial Intelligence. Using AI to generate content for assignments or assessments is considered plagiarism.
- **AI as an Editor:** Artificial Intelligence is officially classified as an editor. Using AI for excessive editing suggestions violates academic integrity and carries the same weight as relying on excessive edits from another student, teacher, or parent.
- **Disciplinary Action:** Because the unauthorized use of AI constitutes a cheating offence, it will trigger the school's strict, sequential consequences. A first offence involving AI will result in a grade of zero on the assessment, notification to parents and administration, and a 1-day out-of-school suspension.

### Consequences for Offenders

To maintain the integrity of our assessments and correct unacceptable behaviour, the school strictly enforces the following sequential consequences for academic dishonesty. These disciplinary actions align with the suspension and expulsion procedures outlined in the Alberta Education Act, which grants principals the authority to suspend students.

#### First Offence:

- A grade of zero on the assessment.
- The teacher will inform parents and admin of the offence.
- A 1-day out-of-school suspension.

#### Second Offence:

- A grade of zero on the assessment.
- The teacher will inform parents and admin of the offence.
- A 3-day out-of-school suspension.
- Immediate withdrawal from the course if same course as first offence.
- A mandatory meeting with the student's parents.

#### Third Offence:

- A grade of zero on the assessment.
- The teacher will inform parents and admin of the offence.
- A 5-day out-of-school suspension.

- A mandatory meeting with the student's parents.
- School withdrawal (Expulsion). Under the Alberta Education Act, the principal recommends expulsion to the school board when a student displays a "wilful, blatant and repeated refusal" to comply with school rules and student responsibilities.