



Academic Integrity Policy February 2023

"Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching" CS Lewis.

Academic integrity is the foundation of our school's educational mission. It is essential that all members of our school community, including students, teachers, leaders and administrators, understand and uphold the principles of academic integrity through *good scholarship*.

NESA's *All My Own Work* curriculum defines *good scholarship* as:

1. Being honest and ethical: you must be honest about what is your own work and what isn't, and about where you got your information.
2. Listing all your sources: research using different sources of information is an important part of academia. Being an ethical researcher and a good scholar means listing all your sources and correctly citing each source, whenever required.
3. Using your own words: communicate what you have learnt in your own words. This isn't always easy to do but it is very important and really worth the effort.

At STHS, *poor* scholarship can lead to academic malpractice in the following forms:

Cheating: Cheating is defined as any attempt to gain an unfair advantage on an academic assignment or assessment. This includes, but is not limited to, copying from others, artificial intelligence-generated responses, using unauthorized materials during an exam, or collaborating on an assignment when not permitted.

Examples of cheating include but are not limited to submitting artificial intelligent-created content as your own, disrupting the assessment task in any way, breaching school examination rules or changing answers upon return of marked responses.

Plagiarism: Plagiarism is defined as the use of someone else's work or ideas without giving proper credit. This includes, but is not limited to, copying and pasting other's online content, paraphrasing without citation, submitting work to which another person such as a parent, tutor or friend has contributed or buying or using pre-written papers or assignments for submission as your own. It is important to know that summarising and paraphrasing can also be considered plagiarism. Acceptable use of this relies on the student's use of their own language to express these ideas and correctly acknowledge the original source document.

Fabrication: Fabrication is defined as the creation or falsification of data, information, or citations. This includes, but is not limited to, making up sources or data, falsifying experimental results, or altering the content of an assignment. Examples of fabrication include but are not limited to creating false resources in a bibliography, intentionally using made-up evidence or contriving false explanations and evidence when tasks are submitted late or incorrectly.

Facilitation: Facilitation is defined as knowingly or negligently helping or allowing another student to cheat, plagiarize, or fabricate. This includes, but is not limited to, allowing others to copy your work, sharing answers during an exam, colluding to obtain your own advantage or advantage over another student/s or completing assignments for others.

In addition to understanding what these behaviours are, it is equally important to understand the importance of why these must be avoided. Again, NESA talks of this in terms of the three reasons why we must respect the intellectual property of others:

1. To promote creative communities and rich cultures. We must support creative work by paying writers, artists, musicians and designers for their work.
2. To promote freedom of speech and expression. When individual creative people can make a living from the sales of their work, they are free from the pressures of sponsorship by governments or large corporations.
3. It is wrong to steal. It is immoral and illegal to steal other people's property unless they give you permission to use it.

Consequences for violating this policy may include significant mark penalties up to 100% of the task's value and/or disciplinary action. Students completing Stage 6 courses will also be added to NESA's malpractice register.

We are committed to creating a culture of academic integrity at Sydney Technical School. All members of our school community are expected to uphold the principles of academic integrity and report any violations to the appropriate school officials. Together, we can ensure the integrity of our academic program and the success of our students.