

# Expectations and responsibilities of the school community

## Parents and legal guardians

### Expectations

Parents and legal guardians play a crucial role in the education process which includes reinforcing the values and importance of academic integrity. This is particularly important when it comes to an education in one of the IB programmes, given the wide recognition that institutions of higher education and other end-users have granted to IB graduates for many years.

Therefore, school leadership, programme coordinators and teachers must commit to an honest and open conversation with parents and legal guardians, emphasizing the position the school has in upholding the IB's principle of academic integrity and the commitment expected from all members of the school community.

In order to support their children and the school, parents must accept that the principle of academic integrity is a fundamental part of the IB's educational philosophy. Parents should also understand the regulations and policies that the IB expects schools, coordinators, teachers and all students to observe. If they have questions or doubts as to what is expected, parents should be directed to approach the school for clarification. Schools are advised to encourage parents and legal guardians to take note of the IB's policy on plagiarism, which is the most common form of misconduct. For more details see [Appendix 3](#).

In agreement with the school, parents can also be included in the group responsible for designing and updating the school's academic integrity policy. By actively participating, parents become speakers and disseminators of the principle of academic integrity of the IB and the school, while serving as a counterbalance, ensuring that the school follows the policy correctly and that sanctions are applied fairly and consistently to those who fail to meet the expectations.

By understanding and accepting the expectations of the school and the IB, parents will be adequately equipped to support their children, as they will be able to explain these expectations to them. This means they can support their children to develop a conscientious and responsible attitude to their learning.

When parents agree with and support the position of the school and the IB, they will be less inclined to give unfair assistance to their children, for example, by writing or over-editing their work. On the

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contrary, they will try to provide the necessary conditions for their children to work independently and request the school's support when they identify that their children are not attending to their studies as required and are falling behind.

## Responsibilities

Although they are not directly involved in daily tasks at school, parents and legal guardians are able to collaborate with the administrative and teaching team in the activities carried out by the school to promote academic integrity while encouraging their children to observe the rules and complete all work according to the expectations.

Focusing on processes for managing academic integrity incidents, parents and legal guardians of IB students are expected to:

- understand IB policies, procedures and subject guidelines in the completion of coursework or examination papers by their children
- support their children's understanding of IB policies, procedures and subject guidelines
- understand school internal policies and procedures that safeguard the authenticity of their children's work
- support their children in planning a manageable workload so they can allocate time effectively
- understand what constitutes student academic misconduct and its consequences
- understand what constitutes school maladministration and its consequences
- report any potential cases of student misconduct or school maladministration to the school's directorate and/or the IB
- submit only genuine and/or authentic evidence to support a request for inclusive access arrangements or adverse circumstances considerations for their children
- abstain from giving or obtaining assistance in the completion of work to their children.

