SCL INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

Academic Integrity Policy

1. Purpose and Scope

The Academic Integrity Policy at SCL International College outlines the college's stance on maintaining honesty, trust, and fairness in all academic activities. This policy provides clear guidelines on what constitutes academic misconduct and how it is managed at SCL International College.

2. Definitions

- Academic Misconduct: Any action that may provide an unfair advantage to a student, including but not limited to plagiarism, collusion, falsification, and impersonation.
- Plagiarism: Using someone else's work, ideas, or intellectual property without proper attribution.

3. Principles

Upon submitting any academic work, students must acknowledge and adhere to the following statement:

'Academic Misconduct is strictly prohibited, including the use of essay mills, homework help sites, plagiarism, collusion, falsification, impersonation, or any other action which might give me an unfair advantage'.

4. Use of AI and Academic Misconduct

While AI tools can be beneficial for certain aspects of academic work, their use must be in line with maintaining academic integrity. Students are allowed to use AI tools for idea generation or planning, provided they consider the context and nature of their assignment. However, relying on these tools to write an entire essay is not permissible.

It's essential to understand that many AI tools, when generating content, may leverage existing human-authored content without proper attribution. Such use can be seen as a form of plagiarism, making it controversial and potentially breaching academic integrity.

For clarity on the use of specific tools in relation to assignments, students should consult their teachers. However, the principles stated above are applicable to all assessments across SCL.

5. Detection and Management of Plagiarism

All student submissions are checked using via Unicheck for potential plagiarism. If an unusual degree of similarities emerges:

The work undergoes a review against its provided references.

Suspicious content necessitates the student to meet with the Academic Manager to elucidate the circumstances of their submission.

During this review, a distinction will be made between intentional and unintentional plagiarism:

Intentional Plagiarism: Deliberate copying or use of another's work without acknowledgment.

Unintentional Plagiarism: Typically arises from a lack of skill, such as inadequate paraphrasing or incorrect quoting.

The Academic Manager bears the responsibility of discerning whether the plagiarism is a consequence of poor academic skill or a deliberate intent to copy.

7. Responsibilities

- Students: Are responsible for ensuring that their work adheres to the standards of academic integrity as outlined in this policy.
- Academic Manager: Is responsible for monitoring potential breaches, conducting investigations when necessary, and determining consequences.
- Teachers: Should provide specific guidance on the use of tools in relation to assignments, ensuring students understand the importance of academic integrity.

8. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its relevance and to make any necessary updates.

Last Reviewed: June 2023 by Paul Clarke and Gary Speirs

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