



Bosworth
Independent
School

Anti-Plagiarism Policy

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Lead for Review	Deputy Headmaster

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Introduction

Plagiarism, copying the work of others and passing it off as one's own, is an extremely serious offence and is a growing problem in schools, colleges and universities. Students therefore need to be aware of the full implications of plagiarism. They also need to be aware of exactly what plagiarism is and how to avoid it.

Plagiarism can include:

- copying from another learner copying from books or the internet
- paraphrasing
- subcontracting the work to someone else
- submitting the same piece of work for two different purposes

Subjects of particular relevance

For most A-Levels and GCSEs, the relevance of plagiarism has reduced because there is less reliance on internal assessments within the new framework of assessments. However, plagiarism is still very much relevant in the following subjects:

- University Foundation Programme Coursework
- A-Level and GCSE
 - History
 - Geography
 - English literature and language
 - Art

Students now have access to many ways of plagiarising without detection; the internet has made it extremely easy for students to download information and use it as whole or part of their own work.

What students must do

It is important that students understand that Bosworth Independent School operates policies of zero tolerance towards plagiarism and that it is a criminal offence to steal the work of another. Also, students need to be aware of the dangers of accidentally plagiarising work.

It is vital that students must:

- Reference work used
- Sign a declaration stating that the work produced is their own
- Speak to staff if they encounter any issues

What staff must do

Staff will safeguard against plagiarism by:

- Looking for use of unfamiliar words
- Looking for alternating quality of work in assignments
- Checking referencing
- The School can access anti-plagiarism checking software such as Turnitin
- Recognise the use of generative AI in students' learning but be vigilant to its use in assessment

Bosworth Independent School recognises that it is not sufficient simply to forbid plagiarism, particularly in the case of students working in English as a second language. A range of study skills are taught alongside their academic courses in tutorials, academic subject lessons and English classes for international students. The objective is to enable students to develop greater awareness of plagiarism and to provide them with practice in developing strategies for the correct usage of research material. Examples of such strategies include notetaking, summarising, paraphrasing, synthesising from multiple sources and the correct usage and referencing of sources.

Consequences

In the case of plagiarism being proven, the consequences can be that:

1. The student can fail the unit, NEA or coursework unit
2. Withdrawal from the subject concerned
3. No grade awarded for the subject by the relevant examination board

In the instance of a concern about plagiarism, the teacher concerned should notify the relevant Head of Department. The Head of Department should then interview the student to ascertain whether they think there is a case of plagiarism to answer. The Head of Department should complete the appropriate discipline forms to notify the Personal Tutor and Head of Year. The Deputy Head should be informed and a course of action discussed with the Head of Department. If there is a serious incidence of plagiarism that will have a significant impact on the student's academic results, then the student's parents or guardians must be contacted. The appropriate examination board should then be advised.