



St. Mary's Diocesan School

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School Plagiarism Policy

Mission Statement

St. Mary's Diocesan School is a Catholic Secondary School under the trusteeship of the Diocese of Meath and patronage of the Bishop of Meath. The school is committed to the development of the whole person offering equal opportunities to all to achieve their full potential in a familial Christian environment. The school aspires to an education based on high ideals and a broad curriculum, which will allow our students to confidently play their role in society.

Aims

We aim to develop a community of learning in which each pupil's talents, physical, intellectual, and spiritual, may unfold as fully as possible in an atmosphere of openness, confidence and generosity. We seek to promote in all our students' qualities of honesty and integrity and the capacity for authentic, courageous self-expression. Our motto "In Christo Confido", inspires us to promote the emergence of reflective, articulate and committed Christians with a deep sense of their vocation to shape their world according to the values of the gospel.

Introduction

Our school is committed to promoting academic honesty and ensuring that all students produce work that reflects their own learning. Plagiarism undermines integrity, effort, and fairness. This policy outlines what plagiarism is, how it is managed, and how students can avoid it.

What is Plagiarism?

Plagiarism is presenting someone else's work, ideas, words, images, data, or digital content as your own, without proper acknowledgement. It includes copying text, using

AI-generated content without acknowledging it, submitting someone else's work, or reusing your own work without permission.

Use of AI Tools

Students may use AI tools only when permitted by their teacher and must clearly state how the AI assisted them. Unacknowledged AI-generated content will be treated as plagiarism. Students must not input personal or identifying information into AI tools.

How Students Should Avoid Plagiarism

Students should use their own words, reference all sources, follow teacher guidance on AI use, keep drafts, and ask for support when unsure about referencing.

Consequences of Plagiarism

If plagiarism occurs, consequences may include redoing the assignment, loss of marks, additional learning tasks, or referral to school leadership for repeated issues.

Support for Students

Teachers will support students in developing good research, referencing, writing, and digital literacy skills.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed regularly to reflect new technologies and evolving best practices.