



HEA Teaching and Learning Conference December 2024

Driving Changes in Teaching and Learning through Policy and Innovation

HEA AN tÚDARÁS um ARD-OIDEACHAS
HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY



MIC Academic Integrity Policy

Name of Institution/Organisation	Mary Immaculate College
Who led the initiative?	Learning Enhancement and Academic Development (LEAD) Centre
Date and timeframe of the initiative	Policy development: Feb 2024-Jan 2025 Policy in place: 2025-2030
What was the reach of the initiative?	The Academic Integrity Policy will apply to all members of the MIC college community
Aims/Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To create a policy that supports the values of academic integrity. 2) To disentangle the meanings of academic integrity and academic misconduct. 3) To give clear guidance around how MIC will value and support academic integrity. 4) To outline the commitments and responsibilities of the college and college community towards academic integrity. 5) To give clearer guidance around academic integrity, academic misconduct and the use of digital tools. 6) To support a caring and educational response to academic integrity and misconduct.
Rationale and Identified Needs	<p>Within the HE sector there has been a growing recognition of the importance of supporting a culture of academic integrity and of taking an educative response to errors in academic practice. The sector has begun to move away from a purely punitive approach to academic misconduct, as it is now recognised that this approach does little to foster a culture of academic integrity. While these values have long been held at MIC, it was important that our policy reflected this handling of academic integrity and misconduct in the College. Further, in the past, academic integrity and academic misconduct have been conflated. This policy seeks to establish the clear differences between these two concepts.</p> <p>Internally to the College, staff and students have both indicated their uncertainty around the appropriate use of emerging technologies, such as Generative AI, when upholding the values of academic integrity. In addition, the development of Generative AI is making the task of identifying and addressing cases of academic misconduct more difficult. The Academic Integrity Policy consequently needed to be updated to create clear rules for how Generative AI could be used without violating the principles for academic integrity upheld in the College.</p>



Frameworks, Policies, or Strategies Aligned (internal, local or national)
<p>The updated MIC Academic Integrity Policy addresses the SATLE theme of ‘best practice in upholding and cultivating academic integrity.’ During the policy review and drafting process, the subcommittee reviewed and discussed several relevant policies from other institutions throughout Ireland, the UK, Australia, Canada, and the US, and referred to the National Academic Integrity Network (NAIN) guidelines, principles, and lexicon of common terms. In addition, we’ve ensured that the draft policy remains in line with other key policy documents at MIC, such as,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MIC Handbook of Academic Regulations • MIC Student Code of Conduct • MIC Student Handbook • MIC Research Integrity Policy • MIC Data Protection Policy

Categories	Elements	Topics	Target Groups
Commit	Leadership, Strategy & Governance		Students Staff
Consult	Personal & Professional Development	Mental Health & Wellbeing	
Create		Artificial Intelligence	