**Academic Integrity**

**Instruction at Lansdowne**

Lansdowne’s Academic Integrity philosophy is one that is shared throughout the district. Students and staff at Lansdowne uphold the CMS Code of Conduct and thereby treat others with fairness and respect. They are also honest and take responsibility for their words, actions, and work. This has led to a community of learners built on trust. Staff regularly revisit the school’s mission and vision statements to ensure we are all working towards an agreed upon common goal. Lansdowne is also lucky to be able to work with students on the development of the Attributes of the Learner Profile. These are taught, discussed, and looked for explicitly.

**Mission Statement:***Our mission is to hold high expectations for academic performance and character development for each student in a safe, caring environment that embraces cultural diversity. We will do this by implementing the International Baccalaureate Program (PYP) and thereby empowering our students to become critical, independent thinkers with the skills to be active participants in an ever-changing global society.*

**Vision Statement:**

*Develop learners’ confidence and ability to seek solutions to the challenges of an ever-changing global society.*

While Lansdowne, as a Charlotte Mecklenburg School, refers to the CMS Code of Conduct and other binding documents for major decision making, our school uses various techniques to instill the Learner Profile and front-load positive behavior to minimize breaches of the CMS Code of Conduct (noted below).  Our school counselors and support staff do an excellent job of helping Lansdowne promote and celebrate [Bucket Filling](https://bucketfillers101.com/).  We incorporate Attributes of the Learner Profile into our “Bucket Filler of the Month” celebrations (ie. “Communicator of the Month'').  Students reflect on those traits and affirm each other through this process.  The [Caring Schools](https://www.collaborativeclassroom.org/programs/caring-school-community/) SEL curriculum adopted by CMS allows for structured conversations about how the students and teacher in each classroom want school to be.  Lessons include routines for student interactions such as greetings and partner work.  With each week’s topic students get to know one another better while simultaneously developing real world social and coping skills.  The curriculum also provides materials for teachers to choose from that focus on targeted behaviors and scenarios that may be unique to one class such as stealing or a death in a student’s family.  Being able to cater to the needs of their students allows the teacher to reinforce positive behavior *and* the CMS Code of Conduct.  Staff members have also recently been trained in the [*Capturing Kids’ Hearts*](https://www.capturingkidshearts.org/) program, yet another tool in setting students and classes up for self-management.  By incorporating that program’s “Social Contracts” into our Essential Agreements, classrooms are building autonomous class families in which students hold each other accountable.  All of these explicitly teach students rules and expectations in a way that makes engaged learning and positive relationships the standard.

**Rights and Responsibilities** (not limited to those listed):

* **Administration**
  + Articulate the Code of Conduct to staff, students, and families
  + Host assemblies outlining the “highlights” of the Code of Conduct
  + Evaluate staff members based on Code of Conduct
  + Enact consequences when Code of Conduct has been broken
* **School Counselors**
  + Lead and maintain the Bucket Filler initiative
  + Host Bucket Filler of the Month celebrations based on IB Attributes of the Learner Profile
  + Lead classroom lessons that promote SEL, class community, and academic integrity
  + Meet with students individually or in small groups to discuss targeted skills relating to SEL and academic integrity
* **Teachers**
  + Lead SEL lessons using Caring Schools and Capturing Kids’ Hearts curricula
  + Create and regularly reference class Essential Agreement
  + Explicitly teach Attributes of the Learner Profile and Approaches to Learning
  + Collect signed Code of Conduct agreements
  + House the CMS Code of Conduct in an easy to access location
  + Work with school counselors to schedule classroom lessons or student counseling sessions when needed

**Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Code of Conduct**

**ATTENDANCE (Citizenship/Responsibility):** A student must attend every class every day unless there is an excused reason for the absence.

**A. Tardy and skipping class UB: Excessive Tardiness, UB: Leaving School without permission, UB: Leaving Class without permission, UB: Truancy, UB: Skipping School, UB: Skipping Class, UB: Cutting Class, UB: Late to Class:** Students who are tardy, cut school or class or have excessive unexcused absences (more than 10) are in violation of this rule and are subjected to adjudication as an undisciplined youth in Juvenile Court. In addition to any administrative response, students with excessive absences may be required to comply with the district’s recovery procedures.

**MISREPRESENTATION (Honesty): A student will be honest and submit his/her own work.**

A. Altering Report Cards or notes *UB: Honor Code Violation:* Tampering with report cards, official passes, notes or other school documents in any manner, including changing grades or forging names to excuses, is prohibited.

B. False information *UB: Falsification of Information:* Making false statements, written or oral, to anyone in authority is prohibited.

C. Cheating *UB: Honor Code Violation:* Violating rules of honesty and Honor Codes, including but not limited to plagiarism, submission of work not authored exclusively by the student or copying another student’s test or assignment, are prohibited. The superintendent has the discretion to punish violations of this rule as Level III if the student’s actions have a serious detrimental effect on other students or staff.

**Minimum (Level I) Consequence:** see image below

**Maximum (Level II) Consequence**: OSS 1-5 Days

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