

VHHS HONOR CODE

In maintaining the long-standing tradition of excellence of Vestavia Hills High School, we believe one of our main goals to be the development of moral character in our students. While personal integrity can be encouraged, each individual has the responsibility for his or her own actions. Honor, therefore, can be defined as conformity, without compromise, to ethical principles.

One of the primary purposes of the Honor Code is to motivate students to achieve the personal excellence that results from developing integrity in all areas of life. In academics, cheating cannot be tolerated. Cheating is defined as the use or attempted use of any deceptive or dishonest method of improving a grade. Various forms of cheating include, but are not restricted to, the following:

1. Possessing/using a cheat sheet - **Class II Offense**
2. Stealing a test - **Class II Offense**
3. Reporting false scores (on homework, etc.) - **Class II Offense**
4. Changing a grade on a paper or in a teacher's grade book or computer - **Class II Offense**
5. Copying the answers on another student's quiz or test and/or allowing another student to copy answers on your test - **Class II Offense**
6. The use of an electronic device to improve your grade (programming calculators with formulas, taking pictures of tests/assignments, etc) - **Class II Offense**
7. Plagiarizing sources (including study aides such as *Cliff's Notes*, using undocumented sources, or buying papers on the Internet) - **Class I or II Offense to be determined by Plagiarism Committee**
8. Copying and/or asking for the answers on another student's homework/classwork and/or allowing another student to copy your work or telling another student answers - **Class I Offense and a zero on the assignment (A second copying offense WILL BECOME A CLASS II OFFENSE!)**

Teachers reserve the right to administer an alternate assessment for students who are absent, whether the absence is excused or unexcused.