

# INTEGRITY CHARTER FOR PROFESSIONALS IN EDUCATION

The **Integrity Charter for Professionals in Education** is intended to be inspirational and a guide to professionals in the education sector to live up to the required ethical norms and professional standards. As we are all aware, due to various influential factors, education has become more complex and challenging. As such it is important for professionals in education to understand the do's and don'ts and be able to appropriately interact with the authorities, superiors, students, parents, and peers.

Moreover, since teaching is becoming more and more multifaceted, education professionals require a set of guidelines to enable them to perform optimally within the legal and ethical parameters. Also, given the emerging challenges in education, the status of members of the educational field need be enhanced so that they are motivated to conduct themselves in a professional manner displaying a high level of commitment, integrity and professionalism.

The Charter is in line with the philosophy and spirit of the Prevention of Corruption Act 2002 which advocates for the promotion of anti-corruption values, best practices and ethical conduct and behaviour.

## OBJECTIVES OF CHARTER

The objectives of the Charter are, amongst others to:

- a. improve the ethical standards of professionals in education and guard against possible abuses, malpractices and corrupt practices;
- b. promote a feeling of professional identity in the education sector to Improve the quality of interactions and teaching;
- c. promote a positive image of all those engaged in the education sector and thereby give due recognition to the status of professionals in the education sector; and
- d. remind professionals in education, particularly new recruits, on the expected ethical standards and service required to support and facilitate learning.



# THE ANTI-CORRUPTION EDUCATION WORKING GROUP (ACEWG)

The ANTI-CORRUPTION EDUCATION WORKING GROUP (ACEWG) was setup in 2019 following the forum organised by the ICAC to commemorate World Teachers Day 2018, with a view to better synchronise anti-corruption efforts in the education sector. The ACEWG is a consultative and advisory forum for the Pre-primary, Primary and Secondary Education Sectors. Members of the ACEWG comprise representatives of the:

- Independent Commission Against Corruption;
- Ministry of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology;
- Mauritius Institute of Education;
- Private Secondary Education Authority;
- Mauritius Examinations Syndicate;
- Service Diocesain de l'Education Catholique; and
- Trade unionists of the pre-primary, primary and secondary education sectors.

We would like to extend our thanks to our members for their valuable contributions in the development of the Integrity Charter.

# INTEGRITY CHARTER

## THE DO'S

As education professionals, we will continuously strive to:

1. Comply with all relevant laws of the Republic of Mauritius, including the anti-corruption legislation and adhere to policies and procedures issued by the Ministry of Education and other relevant authorities.
2. Demonstrate integrity, fairness, impartiality and ethical behaviour in our conduct towards superiors, teaching and non-teaching staff, pupils/students and parents.
3. Endorse punctuality, decency, respect, courtesy, professional commitment and maintain the highest standards of competence and conduct. Always use a respectable language, in office, in classrooms, on phone and with children and display exemplary behaviour at all times.
4. Promote collegiality, work with integrity and honesty at all times and promote moral leadership.
5. Advocate for the inclusion of values and anti-corruption elements in the school curriculum and promote good character building and responsible citizenship.



# INTEGRITY CHARTER

## THE DON'TS

As education professionals, we shall:

1. Neither request nor accept any gift, favour or gratification that might impair or appear to influence professional decisions or actions.
2. Not denigrate, label school personnel or wilfully make false statements or allegations about a superior, pupil/student or subordinate.
3. Not use school equipment and materials for private use.
4. Not use professional relationships with superiors, subordinates, pupils/ students and parents for private advantage.
5. Not reveal confidential information on pupils/ students and colleagues, except to the relevant authorities as per the law.
6. Not favour any pupil/student/colleague to the detriment of others.
7. Not engage in any business involving superiors, pupils/students/ colleagues for profit-making.
8. Not be under the influence of any illicit substances on school premises.

9. Not make unethical use of information technology, media or social networks.
10. Not engage in any immoral act or behaviour.



