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MONT ROSE®  
COLLEGE

# Statement of Academic Freedom

## 2025 – 2027

**Approved by:** Academic/Quality Assurance Board

**Date of approval:** 03/02/2025

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VERSION: 003

## STATEMENT OF ACADEMIC FREEDOM

The Board of Governors' Terms of References are based on the Nolan Principles, which are as follows:

- ☐ Selflessness
- ☐ Integrity
- ☐ Objectivity
- ☐ Accountability
- ☐ Openness
- ☐ Honesty
- ☐ Leadership

It is the responsibility of the Board of Governors to ensure systems are in place for meeting all the College's legal obligations, to ensure that the Human Resources Management Strategy takes equality and diversity into account, to ensure that staff and students have freedom of speech and can give their opinion on any topic or subject with been penalised, to ensure that the College has considered a refreshed Prevent Risk Assessment (annually) and there is an action plan for any issues identified.

All the staff and students have freedom within the law to:

1. To hold and express opinions;
2. To question and test received wisdom
3. To put forward new ideas and controversial or unpopular opinions
4. Develop and advance new ideas or innovative proposals

This means that:

1. In promoting our ideas, we will make every reasonable effort to minimise the risks of any physical or psychological harm arising for any person, institution, or community.
2. We will be aware that some academic opinions and arguments may cause offences to some people, but this is not a sufficient reason not to express

those opinions and arguments. We will, nevertheless, be sensitive to the views of others, and we will not present or challenge views in a way that is hostile or degrading.

3. We respect the right of others to challenge our views, provided that they are based on accurate evidence, facts, or reasonable arguments and that they are thoughtful and made in an appropriate fashion.
4. We will consider the legal implications of our actions. We recognise that there may be consequences if we act in breach of the law and will only involve others with their express consent.
5. We will reflect upon and apply these principles in our teaching, research, study, and debate. We will be proactive in protecting academic freedom for ourselves and others and use it irresponsibly for the promotion of knowledge and understanding.
6. All members and student members shall refrain from all forms of harassment, prejudice and unfair discrimination, whether on the grounds of sex, race, ethnic or national origin, religion, colour, class, caring responsibilities, marital status, sexuality, disability, age or other status or personal characteristic.

The Board of Governors is responsible for ensuring that all the above-mentioned principles and regulations are implemented and followed.