



Artificial Intelligence (AI) Acceptable Use Guidance

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Together we **Exceed**

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Introduction

In today's rapidly evolving technological landscape, the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into educational environments presents both opportunities and challenges. Recognising the transformative potential of AI, Exceed Academies Trust has developed a policy and this guidance to ensure its ethical and effective use within our schools. This document serves as a foundational resource for school and Trust leaders, teachers, support staff, and students, aiming to promote a balanced and informed approach to AI utilisation.

It is imperative to acknowledge the safeguarding risks associated with AI usage and to implement measures to protect both students and staff. Furthermore, AI has the potential to significantly reduce workload by automating administrative tasks and enhancing teaching methodologies, thereby allowing educators to focus more on student engagement and learning.

Users are strongly advised to read the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy and consider other local and national policy and guidance when incorporating AI into their practices. This includes, but is not limited to, Data Protection Policies, the Department for Education (DfE) Generative Artificial Intelligence Guidance, and the Joint Council for Qualification (JCQ) AI Use in Assessments: Protecting the Integrity of Assessments.

Exceed Academies Trust is committed to the ethical use of AI to enhance learning and administrative processes. The Trust and schools must prioritise transparency, fairness, and accountability in all AI applications. AI tools will be used to support educational goals while respecting the privacy and rights of all students and staff. We must ensure that AI systems are designed and implemented to avoid bias, promote inclusivity, and uphold the highest standards of integrity and responsibility.

Exceed Academies Trust staff can access AI-specific guidance and resources via the Trust website: www.exceedacademiestrust.co.uk/ai.

Acceptable Use Guidance

Before incorporating Artificial Intelligence (AI) into the workplace or educational setting, it is crucial for school and trust leaders, teachers, support staff, and students to have an awareness and understanding of the following key points.

Using AI

- Exceed Academies Trust encourages the careful and considerate use Artificial Intelligence (AI) but advises using Generative AI cautiously. Primarily, Generative AI is a tool for staff, not students.
- AI presents significant opportunities for educational institutions, in terms of teaching, learning and administration, but it also carries inherent risks that require awareness of and mitigation.
- The Trust is committed to the ethical use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to enhance learning and administrative processes. The Trust and schools must prioritise transparency, fairness, and accountability in all AI applications. AI tools will be used to support educational goals while respecting the privacy and rights of all students and staff. We must ensure that AI

systems are designed and implemented to avoid bias, promote inclusivity, and uphold the highest standards of integrity and responsibility.

Staff training

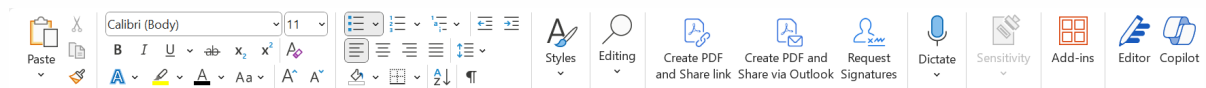
- As well as data protection and online safety related professional development, staff should access AI-related training provided by the trust, school, and/or other relevant providers based on the need of their school or organisation. A whole-school or group training session is available to schools from the Trust upon their request to the Director of School Improvement. In addition, Exceed Academies Trust staff can access AI-specific guidance and resources via the Trust website: www.exceedacademiestrust.co.uk/ai.
- The field of AI evolves rapidly. Users should seek to stay current with developments that impact AI usage in education and apply a critical eye to developments.

'Free' Generative AI

- The majority of Artificial Intelligence Large Language Models (LLM) (simply referred to here as models) and tools are available 'free' of charge. You can register your email address and access the model at no financial costs. These models are provided without commercial data protection, i.e. what you do on the model is typically used to train and improve the model and any data you add is collected and stored by it. This is also relevant to some paid for models.
- At the time of writing, these are the most common forms of Generative AI. Under no circumstances should sensitive or personal information or data be uploaded to or shared with premium paid-for or free-to-use Generative AI models that do not have commercial data protection, including but not limited to ChatGPT (including Apple Intelligence), Google Gemini, Anthropic Claude, Pi, and Microsoft Copilot ('free' website version). At the time of writing, these operate in an unsecure, unprotected online environment without commercial data protection that prevent data and information from training the AI's underlying model. Such requirements also apply to commercial products powered by ChatGPT or other generative model (e.g. TeachMate.ai). This data includes sensitive information (commercial, finance, etc) and personal information (such as names and birthdates) shared or reproduced in text, images, audio, video, code, or simulations formats (including through file names).
- *Some of these models allow for users to prevent their use of AI models from training the model.* Users are encouraged to be aware of this, look for it in the user settings, and to disable the use their data for training purposes. Turning off data training options does not mean users can use sensitive and personal data with the model.
- AI tools are sometimes available for 'free', and in such instances, the company offering the service often considers the user's data as the valuable commodity they seek or the user's loyalty which may result in future purchases and use. This is like social media, etc. The data it draws upon is captured, stored, and typically used to train the Generative AI model and other tools.

Microsoft 365 Copilot Pro with commercial data protection:

- If personal or sensitive data is to be used with Generative Artificial Intelligence, the user must have an active and paid for Microsoft Copilot license associated with their work Microsoft 365 account provided, funded and managed by their school/organisation and/or the trust. Such licensed versions of Microsoft Copilot operate with commercial data protection in a secure environment and data is not used to train the Generative Artificial Intelligence model. It is likely that most school and trust Microsoft 365 accounts will not have access to the license, and so sensitive and personal data must not be used with Generative Artificial Intelligence (see above). Schools/organisations should not subscribe to licensed paid for Generative AI models other than Microsoft Copilot without agreement from the Headteacher or Trust. The trust, schools and organisations wishing to purchase one or more licenses should approach the Trust’s IT lead and IT support provider for assistance.
- If in doubt, please check with the Trust’s IT support if you are unclear about whether you have access to a licensed version with commercial data protection before you begin to use it. In Microsoft Copilot, accessible via your internet browser, log in with your work email address. The following green shield icon will be displayed if you have a commercial data protection. With a licensed version of Microsoft 365 Copilot Pro, in applications such as Microsoft Word, a Copilot icon will be displayed on the Home tab:



Sharing files and folders from Microsoft 365 accounts

- If you share a file or folder with other users via your Microsoft 365 account (or they share them with you), be aware that Copilot Pro is able to find them and refer to them in its OneDrive searches. If users have opted to share a file or folder with ‘People in Exceed Academies’; ‘Share with anyone, doesn’t require sign-in’, ‘Anyone can respond’ or similar setting, these files and folders may appear in Copilot Pro search outcomes. Please share files and folders only with the specific people who need access, and remove access when the collaborative work has ended.

Refining the outcomes from Generative AI

- Generative AI serves as a valuable tool for stimulating ideas and providing a starting point, but it usually requires user intervention to produce a high-quality finished product. The first output from the model is unlikely to be fit-for-purpose. Further prompting is needed to help the model refine the output to meet need, prior to expert intervention to finalise the resource prior to use.
- The quality of prompts (what the user asks AI to do) used in Generative AI tools, such as Google Gemini and ChatGPT, directly influences the quality of the output. Outcomes always need quality assurance and often prompts require adjustments to achieve the desired high-quality results. Outputs can be enhanced by using additional prompts that specifically ask for aspects of the output to be enhanced and always applying professional knowledge, understanding and skill outside of the model to make the output fit for purpose.
- Generative AI will return results based on the dataset it has been trained on. Therefore, for example, a Generative AI tool may not have been trained on the English curriculum and may

not provide results that are comparable with a human-designed resource developed in the context of our curriculum. Models often use a historic version of the internet for their training; therefore, the most recent online resources and information are not available to it.

- Not all Generative AI tools have access to the same training data and not all systems are able to access up-to-date information from the internet and other sources. Comparing and contrasting outcomes from different Generative AI tools, such as ChatGPT and Google Gemini, is recommended to get the best outcome.

Misinformation

- Generative AI may present plausible information that is: inaccurate; inappropriate; biased; reinforces stereotypes; taken out of context and without permission; misinformation; and out of date; and unreliable. The effectiveness of Generative AI models depends on the quality of the training data it has received, which may become outdated, biased, or contain misinformation. This includes content that reinforces stereotypes and bias towards underrepresented groups. Users should not use content that reinforces such biases and actively seek inclusive and diverse content appropriate to the context. Users should only use such information if they are qualified to verify its accuracy before using it. Generative AI can create inaccurate but believable content.

Cautious use

- Where Generative AI is used by educators and support staff in classrooms with students for educational purposes during lessons, they should cautiously model (e.g. turn off the data projector until AI generated images have been created and quality assured) the use of Generative AI tools such as ChatGPT and Google Gemini rather than allowing students to use it independently).

Commercial AI-powered resources

- Some free or commercially purchased AI powered resources chosen by a school or individual may necessitate the sharing of some personal or sensitive data. Under no circumstances should personal or identifying information about staff, pupils or other individuals be entered into any AI system without prior agreement from the Data Protection Officer (DPO). In these circumstances, a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) will be carried out to ensure that appropriate levels of data and cyber security are present to protect personal information.

Age restrictions

- Typically, Generative AI models, such as Google Gemini and ChatGPT have age restrictions of 13, 16 or 18+. Age restrictions vary between models. Leaders, teachers, support staff and students must check and be mindful of these age limitations and adhere to the related terms and conditions. Written parental consent is required for students aged over the minimum age restriction for the model but under 18 years of age to use such tools in schools.

Use by students

- Students in school are most likely to benefit from AI tools that are embedded within commercial products, rather than directly using Large Language Models (LLM) such as ChatGPT. Such commercial educational products that may enhance adaptive teaching and/or personalised learning. Schools may wish to set up a limited trial of such resources, having requested a Data Protection Impact Assessment prior to entering into an arrangement with the provider. Such trials should have a focus and measurable impact to inform the decision making process of whether the tool is beneficial and whether it is worth purchasing and/or rolling-out to more students.

Assessments

- When applicable, schools and their staff should familiarise themselves with guidance from assessment bodies, including examination boards and The Joint Council for Qualifications, and effectively communicate this information to students and parents or carers: <https://www.jcq.org.uk/exams-office/malpractice/artificial-intelligence/>.

Intellectual property rights

- Do not allow or cause intellectual property, including pupils' work, to be used to train Generative AI models, without appropriate consent or exemption to copyright. Students' work should not be used to train Generative AI without written parental consent (if the student is aged under 18) or written consent from the student (if aged 18 or over). For example, uploading a student's GCSE coursework with a mark scheme for a Large Language Model to mark is not an appropriate use of Generative AI. Using two sentences from a child's story for an adult to generate an image that represents the story is acceptable.

Parents and carers

- Information about the use of Generative AI should be provided to parents and carers. A statement is included in the Trust's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy.