Kent Catholic Schools' Partnership
'Academies in Christ'
Part of the Archdiocese of Southwark

Knowledge-rich, skills-led learning for all
Christ at our heart
Serving everyone in our community
Partnership of love, ambition, joy and peace

Use of Artificial intelligence (AI) policy

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John 10:10 "…I came that they may have life and have it abundantly."

1. Aims and scope

The Kent Catholic Schools' Partnership ("the Trust") understand the valuable potential that artificial intelligence (AI), including generative AI, holds for schools. For example, it can be used to enhance pedagogical methods, customise learning experiences and progress educational innovation.

We are also aware of the risks posed by AI, including data protection breaches, copyright issues, ethical complications, safeguarding and compliance with wider legal obligations.

Therefore, the aim of this policy is to establish guidelines for the ethical, secure and responsible use of AI technologies across our whole Trust community.

This policy covers the use of AI tools by staff across the Trust, the Trust Board, local governance committee members and pupils.

This policy aims to:

- Support the use of AI to enhance teaching and learning
- Support staff across the Trust to explore AI solutions to improve efficiency and reduce workload
- Prepare staff across the Trust, the Trust Board, local governance committee members and pupils for a future in which AI technology will be an integral part
- Promote equity in education by using AI to address learning gaps and provide personalised support
- Ensure that AI technologies are used ethically and responsibly by all staff across the Trust, the Trust Board, local governance committee members and pupils
- Protect the privacy and personal data of all staff across the Trust, the Trust Board, local governance committee members and pupils in compliance with the UK GDPR.

2. Legislation

This policy reflects good practice guidelines / recommendations in the following publications:

- Generative artificial intelligence (AI) in education, published by the Department for Education (DfE)
- Generative AI: product safety standards, published by the DfE
- How Ofsted looks at AI during inspection and regulation, published by Ofsted
- AI use in assessments, published by The Joint Council for Qualifications

This policy meets the requirements of the:

- UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) – the EU GDPR was incorporated into UK legislation, with some amendments, by The Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications (Amendments etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020
- Data Protection Act 2018 (DPA 2018).

3. Roles and responsibilities

3.1 Trust Board

The Trust Board will:

- Review and approve this policy on an annual basis
- Ensure that the Headteacher's CPD report is monitored on an annual basis regarding the support given to school leaders that enables informed decisions regarding effective and ethical use of AI
- Be aware of the guidelines set out in this policy when using generative AI tools themselves

Trust Directors will adhere to the guidelines below when using generative AI tools themselves:

- Use only approved AI tools (see section 5)
- Ensure there is no identifiable information included in what they put into generative AI tools (unless strictly necessary and they have been approved to do so – check with your DPO lead where appropriate)
- Seek advice from the DPO, as appropriate
- Acknowledge or reference any use of generative AI in their work
- Fact-check results to make sure the information is accurate.

3.2 Executive team

The Executive team will:

- Take overall responsibility for monitoring this policy and holding school leaders to account for its implementation in line with the Trust's AI strategy
- Review and update the AI policy as appropriate, and at least annually
- Ensure school leaders are appropriately supported to make informed decisions regarding effective and ethical use of AI across the Trust
- Sign off on approved uses of AI, or new AI tools, taking into account advice from the data protection officer (DPO), AI lead and data protection impact assessments.

3.3 Headteacher

The headteacher will:

- Take responsibility for the day-to-day leadership and management of AI use in their school, including an AI approved list for their school
- Liaise with the data protection officer (DPO) to ensure that the use of AI is in accordance with data protection legislation
- Ensure that the guidance set out in this policy is followed by all staff
- Ensure staff are appropriately trained in the effective use and potential risks of AI
- Make sure pupils are taught about the effective use and potential risks of AI.

3.4 Trust data protection officer (DPO)

The Trust-level data protection officer (DPO) is responsible for monitoring and advising on our compliance with data protection law, including in relation to the use of AI.

Our DPO is Charlotte Robinson and is contactable via dpo@kcsp.org.uk.

3.5 DSL

Safeguarding leads are responsible for monitoring and advising on our compliance with safeguarding requirements including in relation to the use of AI, such as:

- Being aware of new and emerging safeguarding threats posed by AI
- Updating and delivering staff training on AI safeguarding threats
- Responding to safeguarding incidents in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE).

3.6 All staff

As part of our aim to reduce staff workload while improving outcomes for our pupils, we encourage staff to explore opportunities to meet these objectives through the use of approved AI tools. Any use of AI must follow the guidelines set out in this policy.

To protect data when using generative AI tools, staff must:

- Use only approved AI tools (see section 5 and appendix 1)
- Seek advice from the data protection officer / IT lead / AI lead, as appropriate
- Check whether they are using an open or closed generative AI tool
- Ensure there is no identifiable information included in what they put into open generative AI tools
- Acknowledge or reference the use of generative AI in their work
- Fact-check results to make sure the information is accurate

All staff play a role in ensuring that pupils understand the potential benefits and risks of using AI in their learning. All of our staff have a responsibility to guide pupils in critically evaluating AI-generated information and understanding its limitations.

3.7 Pupils

Pupils must:

- Follow the guidelines set out in section 7 of this policy ('Use of AI by pupils').

4. Process for approving AI use

The Headteacher is responsible for signing off on approved uses of AI, or new AI tools, taking into account advice from the Trust DPO.

Any use of generative AI by staff and pupils will be risk assessed, which will include plans for mitigating against unauthorised use cases. The intended use case will be specified and have clear benefits that outweigh the risks.

As part of this process, we will seek assurances from suppliers of AI tools about how their products meet the DfE's AI product safety standards.

If it is strictly necessary to use an AI tool to process personal data, we will carry out a data protection impact assessment (DPIA) in addition to the risk assessment. The Trust DPO will advise on this. If the use case is approved, we will also update our privacy notices accordingly.

In the case of AI tools intended for use by pupils, the risk assessment process must consider:

- Age restrictions set by AI tools
- Statutory requirements of KCSIE and our child protection and safeguarding policy
- Filtering and monitoring standards to make sure we have the appropriate systems in place to protect pupils from harm
- The DfE's AI product safety standards.

5. Use of AI by staff across the Trust, the Trust Board and local governance committee members

5.1 Trust Approved use of AI

The Trust are committed to helping staff, the Trust Board and local governance committee members reduce their workload. Generative AI tools can make certain written tasks quicker and easier to complete but cannot replace the judgement and knowledge of a human expert. Technology, including generative AI, should not replace the valuable relationship between teachers and pupils.

Any content produced using AI requires critical judgement to check for appropriateness and accuracy. Whatever tools or resources are used to produce plans, policies or documents, the quality and content of the final document remains the professional responsibility of the person who produced it.

Any plans, policies or documents created using AI should be clearly attributed. Any member of staff, director or committee member using an AI-generated plan, policy or document should only share the AI-generated content with other members of staff, the Trust Board or local governance committee members for use if they are confident of the accuracy of the information, as the content remains the professional responsibility of the person who produced it.

Always consider whether AI is the right tool to use. Just because the Trust has approved its use doesn't mean it will always be appropriate.

The table below sets out suggested AI tools that can be used and the suggested uses for each tool.

Approved tools	Approved uses
Microsoft CoPilot	• To support admin tasks • In line with your teaching and learning marking policy
Key GPT	• To support admin tasks • In line with your teaching and learning marking policy
Canva	• To support admin tasks • Visual ideas tool
Grammarly (users must ensure they are opted out of training the AI model before use. This can be found under “product improvement and training” toggle on Grammarly)	• To support writing skills
Governorhub AI	• Signpost policies/procedures and advice
Arbor AI	• To signpost to support materials for use of the system • To support admin tasks

5.2 School approved use of AI

Each school should hold their own register of approved AI. Staff are welcome to suggest new ways of using AI to improve pupil outcomes and reduce workload. They should contact their Headteacher to discuss any ideas they may have with regards to using AI, so they can take the suggestions forward if they deem it to be a satisfactory new method of working.

The Headteacher, with input from the Data Protection lead, are responsible for signing off on approved uses of AI, or new AI tools, taking into account advice from the DPO, a completed risk assessment and data protection impact assessments.

5.3 Data protection and privacy

To ensure that personal and sensitive data remains secure, no one will be permitted to enter such data into unauthorised generative AI tools or chatbots that have not been approved as safe for this use case.

If personal and/or sensitive data is entered into an unauthorised generative AI tool, the Trust will treat this as a data breach and will follow the personal data breach procedure outlined in our data protection policy which can be found on the school and Trust websites. Please also refer to section 11 of this policy.

5.4 Intellectual property

Most generative AI tools use inputs submitted by users to train and refine their models.

Pupils own the intellectual property (IP) rights to original content they create. This is likely to include anything that shows working out or is beyond multiple choice questions. In addition, materials created by teachers may be copyright material. Examples of what may be deemed original creative work include:

- Essays, homework or any other materials written or drawn by a pupil aside from multiple-choice questions responses
- Lesson plans created by a teacher
- Prompts entered into generative AI tools

The Trust will not allow or cause intellectual property, including pupils’ work, to be used to train generative AI models without appropriate consent or exemption to copyright.

The Trust is aware that secondary infringement could happen if AI products are trained on unlicensed material and outputs and then used in schools or published more widely, such as on the trust's website This may include:

- Publishing a policy that has been created by an AI tool that used input taken from another school's policy without that school's permission
- Using an image on a website that has been created by an AI tool using input taken from the copyright holder without their permission

Exemptions to copyright are limited – we will seek legal advice if we are unsure as to whether we are acting within the law.

5.5 Bias

We are aware that AI tools can perpetuate existing biases, particularly towards special characteristics including sex, race and disability. This means that critical thought must be applied to all outputs of authorised AI applications. This means fact and sense-checking the output before relying on it.

The Trust will ensure we can identify and rectify bias or error by training staff in this area.

We will also regularly review our use of AI to identify and correct any biases that may arise.

If parents/carers or pupils have any concerns or complaints about potential unfair treatment or other negative outcomes as a consequence of AI use, these will be dealt with through our usual complaints procedure.

5.6 Raising concerns

We encourage staff to speak to their school leader in the first instance if they have any concerns about the potential use of AI, or the use of AI that may have resulted in errors that lead to adverse consequences or unfair treatment.

5.7 Ethical and responsible use

The Trust will always:

- Use generative AI tools ethically and responsibly
- Remember the principles set out in the Trust's equality policy when using generative AI tools
- Consider whether the tool has real-time internet access, or access to information up to a certain point in time, as this may impact the accuracy of the output
- Fact and sense-check the output before relying on it

Staff members, the Trust Board and local governance committee members must not:

- Generate content to impersonate, bully or harass another person
- Generate explicit or offensive content
- Input offensive, discriminatory or inappropriate content as a prompt.

6. Educating pupils about AI

The Trust acknowledge that pupils benefit from a knowledge-rich curriculum that allows them to become well-informed users of technology and understand its impact on society. Strong foundational knowledge will ensure that pupils develop the right skills to make best use of generative AI. Pupils will be taught, in an age appropriate way, about AI as part of the curriculum including:

- Creating and using digital content safely and responsibly
- The limitations, reliability and potential bias of generative AI
- How information on the internet is organised and ranked

- Online safety to protect against harmful or misleading content.

7. Use of AI by pupils

The Trust recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn. Appendix 1 sets out the Trust's policy on the use of AI by pupils which forms part of school homework and exam policies.

Pupils may use AI tools:

- That have been approved for their use in school
- As a research tool to help them find out about new topics and ideas
- When specifically studying and discussing AI in schoolwork, for example in IT lessons or art homework about AI-generated images

All AI-generated content must be properly attributed and appropriate for the pupils' age and educational needs.

AI may also lend itself to cheating and plagiarism. To mitigate this, pupils may not use AI tools:

- During assessments, including internal and external assessments, and coursework
- To write their homework or class assignments, where AI-generated text is presented as their own work
- To complete their homework, where AI is used to answer questions set and is presented as their own work (for example, maths calculations)

This list of AI misuse is not exhaustive.

Where AI tools have been used as a source of information, pupils should reference their use of AI. The reference must show the name of the AI source and the date the content was generated.

In our secondary schools in particular, we consider any unattributed use of AI-generated text or imagery to be plagiarism and will follow our plagiarism procedures as set out in each school's exams/assessment policy.

Pupils must consider what is ethical and appropriate in their use of AI and must not:

- Generate content to impersonate, bully or harass another person
- Generate explicit or offensive content
- Input offensive, discriminatory or inappropriate content as a prompt.

8. Formal assessments

The Trust will continue to take reasonable steps where applicable to prevent malpractice involving the use of generative AI in assessments.

We will follow the latest guidance published by the Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) on AI use in assessments.

9. Staff training

The headteacher is responsible for ensuring staff have access to continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities on AI including:

- How you ensure good understanding of AI
- How the school will stay abreast of good practice and what mechanisms the school have in place for sharing it.

10. Referral to our child protection and safeguarding policy

The trust is aware that the use of generative AI may in some circumstances lead to safeguarding concerns including, but not limited to:

- Sexual grooming
- Sexual harassment
- Sexual extortion
- Child sexual abuse/exploitation material
- Harmful content
- Harmful advertisements and promotions
- Bullying

Where there are safeguarding concerns arising from the use of generative AI, a report must be made to the DSL immediately.

Any such incident will be dealt with according to the procedures set out in the trust's child protection and safeguarding policy and child protection referral process.

11. Breach of this policy

11.1 By staff

Breach of this policy by staff will be dealt with in line with the Trust's staff code of conduct.

Where disciplinary action is appropriate, it may be taken whether the breach occurs:

- During or outside of working hours
- On an individual's own device or a school device
- At home, at school or from a remote working location

Staff members will be required to co-operate with any investigation into a suspected breach of this policy. This may involve providing the Trust with access to:

- The generative AI application in question (whether or not it is one authorised by the Trust)
- Any relevant passwords or login details

You must report any breach of this policy, either by you or by another member of staff, to your senior leader immediately.

11.2 By the Trust Board or local governance committee members

Breach of this policy by the Trust Board or local governance committee members will be dealt with in line with the Trust director or local governance committee members code of conduct.

11.3 By pupils

Any breach of this policy by a pupil will be dealt with in line with the school's behaviour policy.

12. Monitoring and transparency

AI technology, and the benefits, risks and harms related to it, evolves and changes rapidly. Consequently, this policy is a live document that must be kept updated by the Audit and Risk Committee whenever there is a significant change to either AI use by the Trust or the associated risks of AI usage.

This policy will also be regularly reviewed and updated to align with emerging best practices, technological advancements and changes in regulations.

The policy will be shared with the Trust Board at least annually.

All teaching staff are expected to read and follow this policy. The headteacher is responsible for ensuring that the policy is followed.

We will ensure we keep members of the Trust community up to date on the use of AI technologies for educational purposes. As part of our regular surveys, feedback from pupils, parents/carers and staff will be considered in the ongoing evaluation and development of AI use across the schools in our Trust.

13. Links with other policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with other relevant Trust and school policies.

Appendix 1 – Addendum to school homework/exam policies

Generative artificial intelligence (AI)

Artificial intelligence (AI) tools are now widespread and easy to access. Staff, pupils and parents/carers may be familiar with generative chatbots such as ChatGPT and Google Gemini. St Michael Catholic Primary And Nursery School recognises that AI has many uses to help pupils learn, but may also lend itself to cheating and plagiarism.

Pupils may use AI tools:

- That have been approved for their use in school
- As a research tool to help them find out about new topics and ideas
- When specifically studying and discussing AI in schoolwork, for example in IT lessons or art homework about AI-generated images. All AI-generated content must be properly attributed

Pupils may not use AI tools:

- During assessments, including internal and external assessments and coursework
- To write their homework or class assignments, where AI-generated text is presented as their own work

St Michael Catholic Primary And Nursery School considers any unattributed use of AI-generated text or imagery to be plagiarism.