

Aylesbury High School | #AHSWalksTall

Developing uniquely talented young adults, who are independent, strong and confident

October 2025

Artificial Intelligence (AI) at AHS

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to keep you up to date about AI at AHS and to request your support from home. Last year, parents and carers were invited to take part in a survey that explored our community's current usage and confidence with AI technologies and to give you an opportunity to shape AHS's AI strategy, which we have since created and some of the details are set out below. We are also hoping to put on at least one online parent information session later this year, perhaps more if there is demand. To aid us in planning the session/s, please indicate what you would find most useful on this <u>Google Form</u>.

Our approach

The landscape of AI is evolving at an unprecedented pace, presenting both remarkable opportunities and significant challenges for our educational community. The DfE emphasises the importance of understanding and responsibly exploring the use of AI in education. The strategy we have created is built upon the core principle of striking a balance: harnessing the transformative potential of AI to enhance teaching and learning, while simultaneously ensuring that our students develop the essential critical thinking, creative problem-solving, and robust literacy skills necessary to thrive in an increasingly complex world. We are committed to fostering an environment where AI serves as a tool to augment, not replace, the fundamental elements of effective education. Our strategy aims to guide our school in navigating the AI frontier, ensuring that we equip our students with the knowledge, skills, and ethical awareness they need to become responsible and successful citizens in an AI-driven future. We encourage all our stakeholders to be transparent about their use of AI to promote academic integrity and trust within our community.

Guidance for Students:

All students have been signposted to the Al Guide for Students which shows them when it might be appropriate to use an Al tool and when it is not appropriate to do so. It contains important information about what Al can be useful for, its limitations and what constitutes academic misconduct. Please note that we ask students do not use generative Al tools, such as ChatGPT, for the vast majority of homework tasks. Exceptions to this include:

- where a teacher sets a task and clearly states that students may make use of an AI tool should they wish
- where a teacher sets a task explicitly instructing students to use an AI tool.

For now, most generative AI tools continue to be blocked for students on the School network. Teachers, however, do have access to some tools (e.g. Gemini) and have been encouraged to use them interactively in

the classroom with their classes. This allows teachers to support students to engage with the tools with a critical and creative mindset. We will continue to review this policy on a regular basis.

Student education:

We are working hard to ensure that we are supporting students to learn how to use AI effectively. The KS3 Computing and L4L curriculums have been updated as shown in the table below. We are also holding annual assemblies and Personal Development sessions for our KS4 and 5 students, including topics such as the opportunities and challenges posed by AI, ethical considerations, crafting effective prompts, and supporting students to make sure that, if they choose to use AI tools, they are using it to enhance and not replace their learning process.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9
 What is AI Types of AI How Machine Learning works The potential of bias in AI Online Safety 	 Dangers and limitations of AI Online Safety 	 How to use AI safely and effectively Online Safety

How you can support from home:

- 1. Have an open conversation with your daughter about AI talk about the benefits and the risks
- 2. Encourage your daughter to always think critically about what the AI is generating, considering bias (their own and the AI's)
- 3. Talk about what good learning really looks like
- 4. Talk about plagiarism and cheating
- 5. Educate yourself about AI tools so you know what's out there
- 6. Try out AI tools together in a safe way
- 7. Check out our weekly newsletter for regular tips and updates
- 8. Familiarise yourself with the student guide linked above so we can be consistent in our messaging both at school and at home.

Useful Links for Parents & Carers

- Common Sense Media excellent parent guides on apps and media
- <u>CEOP</u> advice on keeping your child safe
- Advice on setting up filters at home from the <u>UK Safer Internet Centre</u>
- Parental controls advice from the NSPCC
- NSPCC guidance for parents on Al
- Useful parental control apps: Screentime for iphone; Google Family link; Bark; Qustodio and Forest
- Chatbot.Al article from Parent Zone
- <u>VoiceBox</u> report on Al Chat Bots
- Apps parents should know

Yours faithfully

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