

AI Policy Draft Changes Summary and Recommendations (July 2026)

Key points:

- Most substantial changes are to sections 6-9.
- Additional Appendix (5) added to provide an adoption checklist for schools.

1. Introduction
• Added version control on top. • Adapted the definitions to make them descriptive only • Closed Generative amended to emphasise that they are not automatically safe. • Addendum at end added to include AI used in existing tools (web search, drafting assistance).
2. Scope and Responsibilities
• No change.
3. Guiding Principles for AI Use
• Removed part of advice from 3.3 to avoid duplication later – link to relevant section given.
4. Ethical Considerations, Transparency and Accountability
• No change.
5. Academic Integrity and Assessment
• 5.2 changed to align more closely with JCQ guidance.
6. Staff Use of AI
• 6.1 changed to be more specific on what constitutes AI generated work and links to DfE framing of output review as professional responsibility. • 6.5. changed into a/b/c – and has gone into far more detail on what using AI within assessment processes looks like due to growing use of AI marking tools in schools. Previous requirements to “check for accuracy” replaced with JCQ aligned steps. • 6.6. wording change – Teachers don’t have to integrate AI into their work, but they should be aware of its implications in education. <u>New Sections</u> • 6.8. explains Level of AI use and how to apply the table in 6.7, gives options for different labels in primary settings. • 6.9.a/b/c. replaces previous (accurate) guidance on not using AI plagiarism checkers and emphasises this risk falling disproportionately on some groups of students. Instead, more productive actions are suggested in step b, emphasis on JCQ regulated assessments in c.
7. Student Use of AI
• ‘(Academic)’ added to the title as this section is solely academic based – other uses covered in 9. • 7.5 changed to give more detail on not putting sensitive data into GenAI tools – either one’s own or that of others. <u>New Section</u>

7.8. Added to consider student AI use beyond schoolwork.
8. Data Privacy and Security
8.3. Changed to more robustly deal with data and links to guidance 8.4. Changed Focus on pseudonymisation over anonymisation, as the latter is generally hard to achieve within schools. 8.6. greater focus on DPIA. New Section 8.7. Added to deal with copyright of original work. This is potentially a tricky issue and may not be suitable for the policy as it has legal implications that haven't fully been fleshed out in the UK.
9. Acceptable Use and Safety
Substantial changes here to incorporate guidance about broader AI use. Added 9.1. Added to address non-academic use and point to other policies. 9.4 (previously 9.3) Adapted to add “; or that harasses, humiliates, or harms another member of the school community. This applies whether or not the use occurs during school hours or on school equipment.”. This aims to make this clause more specific to the school context. Added 9.5. Clear guidance on AI-generated imagery of staff or students. Added 9.6. Minimum Age requirements Added 9.7. Chatbot and companion app guidance Added 9.8. Table on categorising AI incidents and action required to give better, more concrete guidance.
10. Potential Misuse of AI and Consequences
No change.
11. Professional Development and Training
No change.
12. Review and Updates
No change.
13. Approval and Accountability Systems
Slight wording change on 13.1 to make more sense.
14. Links with other Policies
No change.
15. Appendix 1
Added DfE Using AI in education settings support materials link.
16. Appendix 2
No change.
17. Appendix 3
Added five further questions focussed on contractual and data protection questions – this is not necessarily needed by builds on the existing guidance.
18. Appendix 4
No change – additional document to be created by NWO for teacher and student advice.
19. Appendix 5
New appendix – adoption checklist to ensure schools meaningfully engage with the policy and adapt it to their context.

