Generative artificial intelligence in education

Call for evidence

Launch date 14 June 2023
Respond by 23 August 2023

Contents

Introduction

We are seeking views and experiences of the use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools built on Foundation Models, such as ChatGPT, Google Bard, Claude, Midjourney and others, in educational settings in England. We are also seeking to understand perspectives on the potential benefits of this technology and concerns around its use in education.

Who this is for

- Academies
- Awarding bodies
- Adult education providers
- Early learning and childcare providers
- Education technology companies
- Further education colleges
- Governors
- Headteachers
- Independent schools
- Independent specialist colleges
- Independent training providers
- Local authorities
- Sixth Form Colleges
- Special schools
- State maintained schools
- Teachers
- Universities
- Other, e.g. academics

Issue date

The call for evidence was issued on 14 June 2023.

Enquiries

If your enquiry is related to the policy content of the call for evidence you can email:

GenerativeAI.consultation@education.gov.uk

If your enquiry is related to the DfE e-consultation website or the call for evidence process in general, you can contact the DfE Ministerial and Public Communications

Division by email: Consultations.Coordinator@education.gov.uk or by telephone: 0370 000 2288 or via the DfE Contact us page.

Additional copies

Additional copies are available electronically and can be downloaded from GOV.UK DfE consultations.

The response

The results of the call for evidence, including responses where appropriate will be published on GOV.UK in Autumn 2023. The Department will use the responses from this call for evidence as well as continued engagement with the education and EdTech sectors to inform future policy work. The Department does not intend to follow this engagement with a formal consultation at this time.

About this call for evidence

The public, including the education sector, have recently gained access to generative artificial intelligence (AI) tools. Generative AI technology uses foundation models trained on large volumes of data. It can be used to produce artificially generated content such as text, audio, code, images, and videos. Examples of generative AI tools include ChatGPT, Google Bard, Claude and Midjourney. This technology is also being integrated into other tools.

Although generative AI is not new, recent advances and public access to the technology mean that the public can now use it more easily. This poses opportunities and challenges for the education sector. The department published a position on generative AI in education on 29 March 2023.

We are keen to explore the opportunities this technology presents for education, as well as understanding the concerns of educators and experts in education. We would like to understand experiences of using this technology from education settings in England. We would also like to hear your views on where using it could benefit education, and about the risks and challenges of using it.

All questions, except those about the use of your data, are **optional** and may not be relevant to all circumstances. We would value receiving your views wherever possible.

Optional demographic information:
- Name
- Email address
- Job title
- Subject area
- Number of years worked in education
- Organisation/institution name
- Institution number (URN)
- Type of institution/phase
- Permission to be recontacted for the purposes of this project

Questions we are asking:
1. Experience with generative AI:

- Have you or your institution used generative AI tools in an education setting? If so, could you briefly describe the ways it was used and the specific tools used.
- What were the main challenges you faced in using generative AI and how did you address these?
- What was the result of your use of these tools, including any impacts?

2. Opportunities and benefits:

- How do you think generative AI could be used to improve education?
- What subjects or areas of education do you believe could benefit most from generative AI tools?

3. Concerns and risks:

- What are your main concerns about using generative AI in educational settings?
- If at all, have these concerns impacted your use of generative AI? Please explain how.
- Are there specific subjects or areas of education where you believe generative AI should not be used? Why?

4. Ethical and legal considerations:

- If any, what are your views regarding ethics, data privacy and security when using generative AI in education?

5. Future predictions and enabling use:

- How do you see the role of generative AI in education evolving in the future?
- What support do education staff, pupils, parents or other stakeholders need to be able to benefit from this technology?
- What activities would you like to see the Department for Education undertaking to support generative AI tools being used safely and effectively in education?
- Is there anything else you would like to add on the topic of generative AI in education?

6. Recontact information

Would you be willing to be re-contacted about further research related to this call for evidence or your submission. If so, please reconfirm your email address.

Respond online

To help us analyse the responses please use the online system wherever possible. Visit DfE consultations on GOV.UK to submit your response.

Other ways to respond

If for exceptional reasons, you are unable to use the online system, for example because you use specialist accessibility software that is not compatible with the system, you may request and complete a word document version of the form.

By email

GenerativeAI.consultation@education.gov.uk

Deadline

The call for evidence closes on 23 August 2023.

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