Using AI ChatBots for Good

You've probably heard of ChatGPT, the wonder AI chatbot. From writing poems to C.V.s, it seems there's nothing this artificial intelligence can't create! That does, unfortunately, include homework.

ChatGPT's terms of services says users must be least 13 years old and those under 18 must have their parent or legal guardian's permission. However, between the press coverage and the lack of age verification, it's likely that many young people are using it regardless.

But is it *really* helping with homework? Here are some points to consider if the young person in your care wants to use an AI chatbot.

Age Rating Age Rating Age Rating Age Rating Age Rating
13+

SOMETIMES AI CHATBOTS ARE WRONG!
This means if someone is relying on them for facts, they might be wrong too. And it might become obvious that they've used AI to complete their work.

CHATBOTS AREN'T ALWAYS UP TO DATE.
ChatGPT knows about the world up until 2021, after that its knowledge is limited.

CHATBOTS ARE BANNED IN SOME PLACES.
If a young person is using chatbots but their school has banned it, they might have to face the consequences of breaking the rules.

EVERY VOICE IS UNIQUE.
Although you can ask a chatbot to create text in a certain way, it's incredibly unlikely that it will sound identical to the user... and even if a young person doesn't think they have a writing style, you can bet their teachers do!

CHATBOTS AREN'T ALWAYS SHORTCUTS
By the time you're finished fact-checking and editing the grammar, you may as well have written it yourself!

Alternative ideas for using AI together

PRACTICE FACT CHECKING

Knowing how to fact check is a very useful skill, both for school and for everyday life. Ask ChatGPT for facts then check them together by Googling, in the news and even in good old-fashioned books!

Being able to tell fact from fiction will also help you and the young person in your care spot fake news and misinformation on social media.

USE CHATGPT TO INSPIRE

Instead of making the chatbot do all the work, use it for prompting ideas. For example, you can give an example of your favourite novel and ask for recommendations of similar books you might enjoy.

MASTER THE SKILL OF EDITING

The text produced by AI chatbots usually needs a lot of changing. Practising editing text for spelling, grammar and comprehension could help improve schoolwork.

LEARN ABOUT AI

There's no denying that artificial intelligence like chatbots can be fascinating. How does it learn information? Who made it? Researching this together could even inspire a future career in AI!

STAYING SAFE WHEN USING AI

Make sure the young person in your care knows who their trusted adults are and that they can talk to them if they see something that upsets or worries them online.

Harmful, unhelpful and untrue answers on ChatGPT can be reported by selecting the 'thumbs down' button beside the answer.

Some young people have been using AI for mental health advice. Talk to the young person in your care about what to do if they're feeling depressed, stressed, or upset.

> I am 14 years old. My favourite book is the Hobbit. Can you suggest three novels I might like?

> Sure, here are three book suggestions you might enjoy based on your love of The Hobbit:
> 1. Eragon by Christopher Paolini ...

For young people, using AI as a way to get out of homework might be very tempting. If you know the young person in your care is using AI chatbots, talk to them about the *possible risks*, *age limits* and alternative ways you can use AI chatbots together as a *force for good*.

childline
ONLINE, ON THE PHONE, ANYTIME
childline.org.uk | 0800 1111