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NIS WEBSITE NIS AI Philosophy & Practices

NIS Artificial Intelligence Philosophy & Practices

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NIS AI Philosophy and Practices

Context

AI-based tools have long been present in education, but the emergence of accessible and advanced chatbots like OpenAI's ChatGPT, Quora's Poe Platform and Microsoft's Bing AI has revolutionized the landscape for educators and schools. This document aims to articulate our philosophy and approach to leveraging generative AI tools and will serve as our "current fixed position", specifically at Nanjing International School's Secondary School. Given the rapid evolution in this field, we acknowledge that this document will be regularly revised to adapt appropriately to emerging needs and realities.

Position Statements

At NIS we know:

- AI is here to stay.
- AI is impacting every industry.
- AI is rapidly evolving.

Therefore:

- We have the responsibility to teach students about AI.
- We have the responsibility to teach students how to use AI ethically.
- Teachers must be kept up to date about new developments in AI.

Because AI can help us:

- create personalized and adaptive learning pathways for all students.
- foster international mindedness by connecting students with diverse cultures and perspectives through online platforms and tools.
- enhance creative thinking by providing feedback, guidance, and inspiration for students' projects and inquiries.
- promote personal excellence by supporting students' self-regulation, efficiency, and reflection skills.

Proposed Practices: A Starting Point for Advancement

These practices serve as the initial framework for our work throughout the school and will undergo regular review and development to ensure their ongoing relevance. While we recognize the potential of AI-based tools in education, we understand the importance of respecting individual choices and privacy considerations. Therefore, we currently do not mandate students to use AI tools that require them to login. However, for those students who wish to explore AI technology, we require parental consent, in accordance with the terms of service outlined by most AI tool providers. For tools such as MagicSchoolAI Student, which do not require student login, students are free to use as directed by their teacher.



At NIS we will:

1. **Embrace Continuous Review:** We acknowledge the rapid evolution of AI technology and commit to continuously reviewing and adapting our practices to stay current and responsive to emerging trends.
2. **Foster Ethical Use:** We prioritize the ethical implications of AI tools and emphasize responsible and mindful usage among our students. By promoting ethical considerations, we ensure that students understand the significance of using AI technology in an ethical and responsible manner.
3. **Ensure Pedagogical Alignment:** We seek to align the integration of AI-based tools with our educational goals and pedagogical approaches. By integrating AI technology purposefully, we enhance the learning experience and empower students to achieve their full potential.
4. **Encourage Collaboration and Support:** We encourage collaboration and support between educators, students, and AI tools to create a collaborative and interactive learning environment. Through collaborative efforts, students can effectively engage with AI technology while receiving guidance and support from educators.
5. **Develop Digital Citizenship:** We are committed to developing students' digital citizenship skills, which include critical thinking, digital literacy, and effective online communication. These skills empower students to navigate the digital landscape responsibly and safely.
6. **Provide Professional Development:** We prioritize professional development opportunities for our educators, equipping them with the necessary knowledge and skills to effectively integrate AI tools into the learning process. By enhancing their understanding of AI technology, educators can guide and support students more effectively.
7. **Encourage Student Voice and Student Choice:** We value student voice and student choice and encourage students to take an active role in their learning journey. While AI tools are not mandatory, students who obtain parental consent can explore and utilize AI technology to enhance their creativity, problem-solving abilities, and adaptability.
8. **Engage Stakeholders:** We actively involve parents, guardians, and the wider community in discussions and education around AI tools. By promoting transparency and collaboration, we build a shared understanding of the benefits and implications of AI technology.

As we embark on this journey, these proposed practices provide a solid starting point for integrating AI-based tools in our school. Through regular review and development, we ensure that our approach remains current and aligns with the evolving needs and circumstances of our educational community.



Actions

To ensure that we are meeting these proposed practices the following outline specific steps which can be taken.

1. School Practices

At NIS, we will:

- Encourage the exploration of generative AI tools by educators.
- Provide comprehensive support to teachers in acquiring and refining the skills necessary to effectively utilize AI tools for educational and operational purposes.
- Clearly communicate the expectations and guidelines related to AI tool usage to all stakeholders through handbooks, published procedures, and other relevant channels.

2. Teacher Practices

Teachers at NIS will:

- Embrace the exploration of generative AI tools within their teaching responsibilities and seek ways to leverage these tools to enhance student learning experiences.
- Participate in any PD opportunities to develop the necessary skills and competencies to effectively integrate AI tools into their teaching practice, ensuring the responsible and ethical use of AI technology.
- Where appropriate, explicitly teach and model appropriate usage of AI tools, fostering a culture of digital citizenship and responsible AI tool utilization.
- Instruct and demonstrate the processes that students must follow to maintain academic integrity and authenticate their work, both for internal assessments and external submissions.
- Modify and/or design programs of study that allow for observation of student learning and production processes facilitated by AI tools.
- Modify and/or design assessments that allow for the possible use of AI that will enable student learning to be clearly communicated.

3. Student Practices

Students at NIS will:

- Adhere to the provided guidance and processes to ensure the authentication of their work, demonstrating their commitment to academic integrity.
- Share their understanding of AI tools with their teachers and other members of the NIS community, contributing to the identification of appropriate learning opportunities and collaborative growth.

As we move forward, these proposed practices form the foundation for integrating AI tools into our educational practices at NIS. By embracing AI technology, supporting our teachers' professional growth, and empowering our students, we aim to enhance learning experiences and prepare our students for a future where AI is an integral part of their lives. Through regular review and ongoing collaboration, we will continue to refine our approach to AI integration and ensure that it aligns with the unique needs and aspirations of our school community at NIS.



NIS Work Process for Authenticating Student Work

To ensure that NIS students are well-prepared to meet the rigorous authentication requirements of both the IB and our own academic honesty standards, we have established the following work process:

1. Independent Work:

- Students understand that AI tools are available to support their learning.
- Students will adhere to all applicable academic honesty requirements as stipulated by NIS and the IB.
- To ensure transparency, all preparatory and final work for internal or external assessments should be completed in an online word document accessible to the teacher upon request.
- It is suggested students use separate online Word docs to log non-captured preparatory work, with supplementary materials like photos if necessary.
- Students should be able to explain the development of their work to their teacher throughout the creation process.

2. Final Products:

- Final products may be subject to oral examination as part of the authentication process.

3. Transparency in AI Tool Usage:

- Students should transparently communicate their use of generative AI tools to support their learning by using our APA Citation guide.

4. Teacher Tools for Authentication:

- Teachers may employ various tools to authenticate work, including Turnitin to identify plagiarism, version history of online word documents to understand the creation process, interviews with students, and AI detectors to assess the probability of AI-generated content.

5. Consequences for Non-Compliance:

- Failure to follow the guidelines above may result in unauthenticated work, leading to non-grading for in-school assessments or non-submission to external authorities.
- Students may also be subject to school procedures concerning academic malpractice if suspicions arise.

By adhering to this work process, NIS students will be equipped to meet authentication requirements, ensuring the integrity of their academic work, and fostering a culture of academic honesty within our school community.

