

Briarcliff Family Guide to Student AI Use

How we help students build skills — and learn to use AI safely and responsibly. A companion to the student **FAIR** Guidelines.

Briarcliff is committed to ensuring students develop the **fundamental academic and interpersonal skills** that matter most — reading, writing, reasoning, collaborating face-to-face without the aid of technology, and communication — while also learning to **use AI safely and responsibly**. On each assignment, teachers set a **FAIR Level (1–4)** that tells students exactly how AI may be used.

THE FOUR FAIR LEVELS — *Set by the teacher on each assignment.*

LEVEL 1 — No AI	LEVEL 2 — AI to Learn	LEVEL 3 — AI as Collaborator	LEVEL 4 — AI as Producer
Done entirely without AI.	AI helps your child understand; none of its words are turned in.	AI helps build the work; the student stays the author and discloses use.	AI produces the work; the student directs, verifies, and cites it.

HOW AI USE GROWS BY GRADE BAND — *More guidance early, more independence later*

ELEMENTARY (K–2) <i>AI use: None</i>	ELEMENTARY (3–5) <i>AI use: Infrequent & teacher-guided</i>	MIDDLE SCHOOL <i>AI use: Growing</i>	HIGH SCHOOL <i>AI use: More frequent & advanced</i>
Tools: AI is not used at this level. Focus: Foundational skills come first — reading, writing, counting, and getting along with others, learned hands-on and face-to-face.	Tools: District-approved AI tools only. Focus: Building core reading, writing, math, and collaboration skills with support of technology or AI, and teacher-guided use.	Tools: May explore a variety of AI tools but must use district-approved tools for school assignments. Focus: Learning when and how to use AI responsibly and building independent judgment.	Tools: District-approved tools strongly encouraged; others allowed only when use matches the teacher’s FAIR level. Focus: Using AI responsibly to prepare for college, career, and life.

ACROSS ALL GRADES — *What stays the same — and how you can help at home*

- **Ask which FAIR level applies.** If your child isn’t sure, they should treat the assignment as Level 1 (No AI) until the teacher confirms.
- **Encourage your child to think first.** AI supports learning — it should never replace your child’s own ideas, voice, or effort.
- **Protect privacy.** Never enter personal information (names, addresses, birthdays) into any AI tool.
- **Check the facts.** AI can be confidently wrong. Remind your child to verify important information against a reliable source.

THE BMUFSU’S PHILOSOPHY ON TECHNOLOGY & AI — *How our approach aligns with national and state guidance*

Briarcliff UFSD believes that technology and AI, used **intentionally and responsibly**, are powerful allies in learning — but they should be tools employed in the service of learning, never a replacement for the thinking, creativity, and human connection at the heart of a great education. We introduce them **gradually and purposefully**: throughout their K-12 journey, students work to master the fundamental academic and interpersonal skills that everything else is built upon, and gradually students learn to apply digital tools with skill, judgment, and care. This balance keeps screen use meaningful and age-appropriate, protects time for hands-on and face-to-face learning, and prepares students to become **confident, capable, and responsible** in a rapidly changing world. Briarcliff’s approach is grounded in trusted national and state guidance:

- **Healthy, purposeful use** — The District promotes active, learning-centered technology use over passive screen time, provides ample time for hands-on work, play, and face-to-face collaboration, and safeguards student well-being — keeping device time well within recommended guidance on screen time at school. Please visit: [American Academy of Pediatrics](#).
- **Rigorous academic standards** — Student technology use advances the State’s Math, Science & Technology learning standards: accessing and processing information with appropriate tools, designing and evaluating solutions, and applying knowledge to real-world, interdisciplinary problems. Please visit: [New York State Learning Standards](#).
- **Future-ready skills** — We help students grow as empowered learners, knowledge constructors, and responsible digital citizens who evaluate information critically, protect their privacy, and create and collaborate ethically. Please visit: [ISTE Standards for Students](#).

Questions? Speak with your child’s teacher and refer to the AI Community Playbook for further information.