

# AI What Parents Need to Know



Parents play a crucial role in guiding their children's understanding and interaction with artificial intelligence (AI). Here is some key information that parents should know.

## What is AI?

AI refers to computer systems that can perform tasks that typically require human intelligence, such as learning, problem-solving, creativity, and decision-making.

## The types of AI

There are two main types of AI: narrow AI and general AI. Narrow AI is designed to perform a specific task or a narrow range of tasks. Narrow AI is what is available today. Examples include Siri and Alexa, chatbots, and self-driving cars.

Artificial general intelligence (AGI) is what many are currently working to achieve—AI that possesses human-like intelligence and can perform any intellectual task that a human can.

## AI in education

Many schools are now taking advantage of AI capabilities to enhance student learning.

AI tutoring, virtual assistants, and chatbots can provide students and parents with intelligent, human-like tips, feedback, and advice. AI programs can also analyze students' strengths, weaknesses, learning pace, and preferences to create personalized learning paths.

## What to watch out for

AI is used for fun and to increase productivity, but it can be easy for young people to misuse. Here's what to look out for.

**Plagiarism.** AI can be used for generating ideas and preliminary research, but copying and pasting AI-generated text and turning it in as original work is cheating and can get students in a lot of trouble.

**Misinformation.** AI can be used to create and spread fake news, misleading content, or hoaxes, contributing to misinformation on social media.

**Privacy concerns.** AI can be used to gather and analyze private data without consent.

**Spam and bots.** AI tools can be used to create and spread spam and fake reviews, or to engage in social media interactions to artificially inflate engagement metrics.

## What parents can do

**Choose safe AI applications.** Ensure that the AI applications your child uses are age-appropriate, safe, and reputable. Research and read reviews before allowing your child to use any AI tools.

**Stay involved and supportive.** Be actively involved in your child's digital experiences. Know what your student is doing online and what websites and apps they are using.

**Talk about online safety.** Have open and honest conversations with your student about online safety. Remind them to never share their personal information, and to remember that once something is online, it's there forever.



VIDEO

*For more information about screen time and internet safety, check out this short video.*