



The Grey Coat Hospital

Student AI Use Policy

GCSE, A Level, Coursework & Homework Guidance

POLICY NAME:	Student AI Use Policy
GOV COMMITTEE:	Curriculum Committee
LAST POLICY REVIEW DATE:	September 2026
POLICY REVIEW SCHEDULE:	Annual

Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools such as OpenAI ChatGPT, Grammarly, Google Gemini, and other AI apps are now part of everyday life. At The Grey Coat Hospital, we know AI can help students consolidate learning, revise and organise ideas.

However, qualifications like GCSEs and A Levels are awarded based on **your own knowledge, understanding, and skills**.

This policy explains how to use AI safely, honestly, and legally in school.

1. The Main Rule

Your work must still be YOUR work.

According to the [JCQ AI Guidance for Assessments](#), students must only submit work that is genuinely their own. If AI is used in a way that replaces your thinking or writing, this may count as malpractice. ([Joint Council for Qualifications](#))

Using AI is not automatically cheating.

Pretending AI work is completely your own is.

2. The Grey Coat Hospital Traffic Light System

Every task will fall into one of these categories:

Colour	What It Means	Examples
 RED	No AI allowed	Exams, supervised assessments, tests, timed essays, quizzes completed at home to test your learning" e.g. Sparx, or mid-unit Teams quizzes
 AMBER	AI allowed if acknowledged	research, revision,
 GREEN	AI expected as part of learning	AI literacy projects, coding tasks, digital research

If you are unsure, ask your teacher before using AI.

3. GCSE & A Level Rules (JCQ Guidance)

The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) sets the rules for GCSEs, A Levels, OCR National, and many vocational qualifications.

Their guidance says:

- Work submitted for assessment must be your own.
- AI-generated content must not replace your independent thinking.
- If AI is used, it should be acknowledged and referenced.
- Teachers must investigate work that does not appear authentic. ([Joint Council for Qualifications](#))

This especially applies to:

- Coursework
- NEAs (Non-Examined Assessments)
- Controlled assessments
- Internal assessments
- Portfolios

4. What AI CAN Help You With

AI can be useful when it supports learning instead of replacing it.

Allowed examples may include:

- Explaining difficult concepts
- Creating revision quizzes
- Brainstorming ideas
- Checking spelling and grammar
- Translation support
- Accessibility support
- Helping organise notes
- Practising interview questions
- Generating study plans

Example:

- GOOD:

“Give me 5 quiz questions on Macbeth.”

NOT OK:

“Write my Macbeth essay for me.”

5. What Counts as AI Misuse

The following may count as malpractice under JCQ rules:

- Copying AI responses directly into coursework
- Rewording AI text and pretending it is fully yours
- Using AI to complete entire assignments
- Using AI during exams
- Using AI-generated answers in RED tasks
- Submitting AI-generated work without acknowledgement
- Uploading exam questions into AI tools during assessments
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JCQ states that students who misuse AI may face penalties including:

- loss of marks,
- disqualification from an assessment,
- or disqualification from qualifications. ([Joint Council for Qualifications](#))

6. How to Acknowledge AI Properly

If your teacher allows AI use, be honest about it.

JCQ guidance says references should include:

- the AI tool used,
- and the date it was used. ([Joint Council for Qualifications](#))

Example:

ChatGPT (OpenAI), used on 16 May 2026 to generate revision questions.

If you used AI for ideas or planning, say so clearly.

7. Important: AI Does Not Always Give Correct Information

AI can:

- make up facts,
- invent quotations,
- give wrong sources,
- or produce biased answers.

You are responsible for checking anything AI gives you. Never assume AI is automatically correct.

8. Exams and Controlled Assessments

During exams and formally supervised assessments:

- AI tools are NOT allowed.
- Internet access is normally prohibited.
- Using AI in an exam could be treated as serious malpractice. ([Joint Council for Qualifications](#))

Even when using a laptop in exams, schools must ensure AI tools cannot be accessed. ([Joint Council for Qualifications](#))

9. Teachers Know Your Voice

Teachers do not rely only on AI detectors.

In fact, JCQ guidance recognises that teachers are best placed to identify authentic student work. ([Joint Council for Qualifications](#))

Teachers may notice:

- sudden changes in writing style,
- overly polished work,
- generic phrases,
- lack of personal examples,
- or work that does not match your normal classroom performance.

This does not automatically mean punishment.

It usually means a conversation in the first instance.

10. Why This Matters

School is not just about finishing tasks.

It is about learning how to:

- think independently,
- solve problems,
- communicate clearly,
- and develop your own ideas.

If AI does all the thinking, you miss the learning. “The real cost is not dishonesty. It is disengagement.”

11. Quick Student Checklist

Before submitting work, ask yourself:

- Is this genuinely my understanding?
- Could I explain this in class?
- Have I acknowledged any AI help honestly?
- Did I check the facts myself?
- Does this sound like me?

If the answer is yes, you are probably using AI responsibly.

12. Final Reminder

AI is a tool.

It should support your learning — not replace you.

The best work still sounds human:

- clear,
- thoughtful,
- personal,
- and authentic.
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For full official guidance, read the [JCQ AI Use in Assessments Guidance](#).

In a study conducted on 27,000 pupils over 6 months “pupils using AI saw their average homework score rise by 18% across all subjects. The time they took to complete each assignment fell from an average of 64 minutes to 45. But come exam time, the same students scored 20% below their classmates who had not called on AI’s help.”

