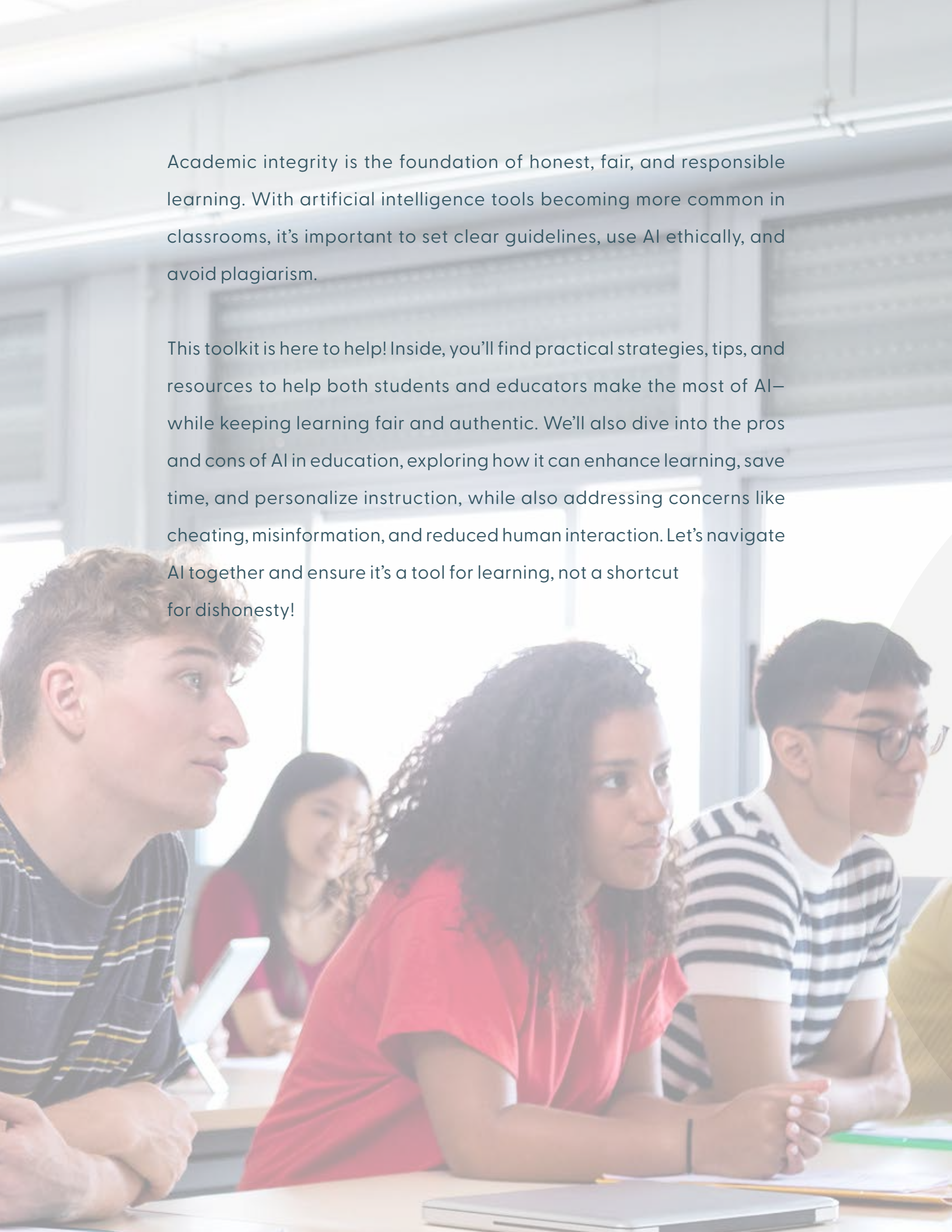# ACADEMIC INTEGRITY
TOOLKIT

3rd Millennium
CLASSROOMS

Academic integrity is the foundation of honest, fair, and responsible learning. With artificial intelligence tools becoming more common in classrooms, it's important to set clear guidelines, use AI ethically, and avoid plagiarism.

This toolkit is here to help! Inside, you'll find practical strategies, tips, and resources to help both students and educators make the most of AI—while keeping learning fair and authentic. We'll also dive into the pros and cons of AI in education, exploring how it can enhance learning, save time, and personalize instruction, while also addressing concerns like cheating, misinformation, and reduced human interaction. Let's navigate AI together and ensure it's a tool for learning, not a shortcut for dishonesty!

AI IN THE CLASSROOM

AI IN EDUCATION: PROS, CONS, AND PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

A recent study conducted by Forbes Advisor revealed that 60% of educators polled use AI in their classrooms (Hamilton, 2024). This percentage is only expected to increase as younger teachers join the workforce.

The response to AI learning has been mixed. While many schools and universities praise the benefits of machine learning, there are also questions about the ethics of AI in the classroom.

AI technology continues to improve, and corporations value employees with AI experience. The application of this software in the workplace increases the necessity of AI in the classroom to prepare students for the future. Explore the common uses of AI in education, the pros and cons of machine learning, and how to promote the ethical use of AI with students.

BENEFITS OF AI IN THE CLASSROOM

Technology enhances the educational experience for students and educators. From opening new pathways of learning to eliminating tedious tasks, there are several benefits of integrating AI in schools and universities (The Evolution of Education: How AI Is Reshaping Grading | the Princeton Review, n.d.).

✓ MEASURING STUDENTS' SKILLS AND WEAKNESSES

Machine learning tracks and assesses student understanding as they work through assignments. These metrics serve as an invaluable resource for teachers to personalize learning. Every student is given help where they need it. Areas of exceptional knowledge can be fostered and challenged, meeting students at their individual skill levels for a more holistic educational experience.

✓ CUSTOMIZED LEARNING MATERIALS

AI personalizes the student's learning experience. The software can quickly translate materials into another language. AI can also be used to write minor changes to assignments to suit student interests. Adjust writing prompts to a more relevant topic or rephrase questions for different grade levels with ease.

✓ AUTOMATE REPETITIVE TASKS

Repetitive tasks like grading take up a lot of time, and as a result, many educators bring this work with them. A heavy workload leads to boredom and burnout. AI can complete this work and save educators a lot of time. In addition, AI grading limits bias and subjectivity that contribute to inconsistent scoring.

However, it is important to note that AI grading does have some limitations, including a lack of feedback/comments and an inability to score open-ended responses.

✓ EDUCATOR ASSISTANCE

AI can work as a helpful teaching assistant. From outlining lesson plans to generating project ideas, intelligent software can cut down an educator's to-do list. Leveraging AI to populate quiz questions or brainstorm assignment prompts gives teachers more time with students.

DOWNSIDE OF AI
IN THE CLASSROOM

Grading is time-consuming, often extending beyond school hours. A heavy workload leads to boredom and burnout. AI can complete this work and save educators a lot of time. In addition, AI grading limits bias and subjectivity that contribute to inconsistent scoring.

However, it is important to note that AI grading does have some limitations, including a lack of feedback/comments and an inability to score open-ended responses.

JOB SECURITY

Many educators approach AI with hesitation, especially as the efficacy of the technology improves. Will AI ultimately completely replace the need for in-person teaching?

The push to online education during and after COVID has increased these

concerns, as has the rise of elective homeschooling. However, there has been no indication from districts or colleges that the step to replace teachers with AI will be taken.

While there are undeniable benefits of technology in the classroom, machine-learning can never replace human interaction. In addition to fostering minds and developing skills, teachers have an essential emotional place in students' lives. Computers cannot replicate the empathy or compassion that creates positive learning environments.

EXPENSIVE TO IMPLEMENT

AI technology is expensive, and the software is constantly evolving. Its high price tag is a barrier to implementation in low-income school districts. In addition, teachers need training and support to optimize AI. Professional development costs are another budgetary concern, creating another cost obstacle for schools and universities.

CHEATING/PLAGIARISM

One of the biggest concerns with AI in education is how easy it makes cheating. AI programs like ChatGPT and Gemini are designed as writing and research tools, but they can also be misused to auto-generate essays, homework answers, and even discussion responses with just a few clicks. Some students may be tempted to submit AI-generated work as their own, making it harder for educators to assess true understanding.

To address this, schools and teachers are taking extra steps to maintain academic integrity. Many are using AI detection tools like Turnitin and GPTZero to flag AI-generated text. Others are redesigning assignments to be more open-ended, discussion-based, or hands-on—making it harder for AI to produce fully correct responses.

ISOLATION

AI keeps learning behind a screen. It requires zero human interaction, leading to student isolation. As children and young adults habitually chat with bots instead of peers or mentors, there is a concern that intrapersonal communication skills will diminish.

INFORMATION BIAS

AI's accuracy depends on the quality and bias of its training data. Consequently, there is an inherent bias in everything AI produces, posing an ethical dilemma. Furthermore, AI can populate falsities, requiring additional fact-checking, especially when it pertains to student learning.

HOW IS AI BEING USED IN EDUCATION?

ADAPTIVE LEARNING

Adaptive learning platforms aid students during learning by providing feedback and insights on work. Instead of waiting for revisions at the end of an assignment, adaptive learning platforms guide students while they are working, making it easier for them to learn from mistakes. Additionally, adaptive learning platforms customize materials to better align with individual skills.

SUPPORT CHATS

Using support chats in the classroom keeps students on track. If they are stuck on an assignment, posing the question to a chatbot can help them overcome that obstacle.

Encourage transparency in AI use.

EDUCATIONAL GAMES

Education games are one of the most popular ways teachers use AI in the classroom. Students like the mix of learning and playing. This software presents information in an engaging medium that holds student attention.

AUTOMATED FEEDBACK/ GRADING
Teachers are using AI grading to quickly grade tests and quizzes. Students get their grades faster, and educators have more time to work through student errors. Automated feedback

also helps students correct work at the moment, creating a deeper understanding of assignments.

TUTORING

Customized tutoring addresses each student's concerns individually. AI tutoring replicates a one-on-one teaching session and is an excellent solution for offering personalized help to every student in the classroom.

HELPING STUDENTS
USE AI ETHICALLY

AI is drastically changing how everyone learns and communicates. Employers are leveraging AI software to expedite tasks and reduce employee workload. As a result, future generations will be expected to be comfortable using AI. Therefore, schools introducing AI in the classroom are responsible for teaching students how to ethically leverage AI in their work (Top 10 Ethical AI Practices to Teach K-12 Students, n.d.).

CRITICAL THINKING & VERIFYING INFORMATION

Students may have a misconception that AI answers are always factual. However, this software only knows the information it is trained on, and there is a high risk of receiving incorrect or biased answers.

- Expose the flaws of AI and underscore the importance of verifying AI responses.
- Encourage students to find verified resources that support AI answers.
- Show students how to ask AI questions from a variety of perspectives and assess the differences in answers.

TRANSPARENCY

AI can be a helpful tool for students. Encourage them to ask about AI and whether or not it is allowed in assignments. Establishing boundaries early helps avoid cheating but also promotes conversations about when AI is appropriate to use.

In addition, share the importance of being transparent about AI use. Show students how to note the AI in their work and prepare them to collect resources that support the AI-generated content in the project.

Finally, explain what is considered AI cheating. Changing a few words in a ChatGPT answer is still plagiarism. Detailing your expectations of students and outlining the difference between using AI as a crutch versus a tool is imperative.

A significant concern of educators is that students will use AI to cheat or plagiarize work (Kennedy, 2024). However, given the benefits of using AI in the classroom, removing this technology would be a disadvantage to students. Here are some tips to help address and avoid AI cheating.

SET CLEAR GUIDELINES

Schools and universities have implemented explicit consequences for plagiarism. These policies should be amended to include AI cheating. In addition to school- or university-wide policies, educators should consider writing and reviewing their personal expectations for students.

OPEN-ENDED QUESTIONS

AI is not able to produce genuine or human-replicated answers to open ended questions. Diversifying quizzes, exams, and assignments with these inquiries deters the use of AI.

LEVERAGE IMAGES, GRAPHS, AND DIAGRAMS

Students cannot upload graphics into AI. As a result, they are forced to analyze and draw original conclusions.

ASSIGN PROJECTS

Designing projects that require hands-on work and real-world application encourages students to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Multi-stage projects aren't conducive to AI-generated answers.

UPLOAD WORK

Asking students to upload their work to exam questions makes AI answers ineligible for credit.

PUT TIME LIMITS ON ASSIGNMENT

The pressure of a ticking clock will push students to develop a stronger understanding of the topic. The limited time prevents the use of multiple AI tools.

THE FUTURE OF AI IN EDUCATION

AI will continue to play an increasingly integral role in education. Students and teachers are leveraging technology to save time, customize learning, and introduce lessons in engaging formats.

AI software companies are working with educators to create classroom-specific programs. This technology is designed to enhance the student experience and assist teachers. For example, ChatGPT has released a new AI chat for higher education. The renewed version offers higher data and privacy and does not use conversation to train AI. Responses are more accurate and capable of university tasks like document summarization.

However, the rise of AI in the classroom requires more teacher training. While there is little risk that AI will have a central role in education, teachers are asking for comprehensive training. The technology and necessary professional development can be cost-prohibitive for low-income districts. Schools and universities are working to provide equitable accessibility to technology for all classrooms.

Despite concerns about cheating, isolation, and lower interaction, US schools and colleges have an optimistic view of AI in education.

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