

Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy for Elementary Students

Purpose and Philosophy

As a Christian school, we are committed to providing an educational environment that honors God, supports the development of each student's unique gifts and abilities, and encourages wisdom, integrity, responsibility, creativity, and perseverance. Our school establishes policies and practices that reflect our educational mission, values, and understanding of what is developmentally appropriate for our students.

At the elementary level, we believe that students learn best through direct instruction, personal effort, meaningful relationships, hands-on experiences, communication, creativity, and the process of thinking through challenges independently. For these reasons, Artificial Intelligence (AI) technology is not considered an appropriate tool for use within our elementary program.

Prohibition of AI Use

Artificial Intelligence tools, applications, programs, and AI-enabled devices are not permitted for student use in the elementary school setting.

Students may not use AI to assist with, create, complete, revise, or generate any portion of school-related work. Students are expected to complete all work using their own knowledge, effort, creativity, and understanding.

Rationale for the Policy

Our elementary program is designed to build strong academic foundations and character development. Allowing AI tools in elementary education can interfere with these important goals by:

- **Replacing essential learning experiences:** Students develop skills through practice, effort, problem-solving, and perseverance. When technology completes these processes for students, valuable learning opportunities are lost.
- **Limiting independent thinking:** Elementary students are developing the ability to reason, make decisions, communicate ideas, and solve problems. These skills must be intentionally practiced and developed.
- **Reducing opportunities for creativity and personal expression:** A student's work should reflect his or her own thoughts, abilities, and God-given creativity.
- **Preventing accurate assessment of student growth:** Student work allows teachers to understand what students know and where additional instruction is needed. AI-generated work does not accurately represent a student's individual progress.
- **Creating concerns regarding accuracy, responsibility, and appropriate use:** AI tools may provide information that is incomplete, incorrect, or unsuitable. Elementary students are still developing the judgment necessary to evaluate and responsibly use such tools.

Use of AI by Teachers and School Personnel

AI will not be used as a teaching tool, instructional resource, grading tool, or assessment tool within the elementary program.

Instruction, evaluation, feedback, and academic support will continue to be provided through the professional judgment, experience, and personal involvement of our teachers and staff. We believe the teacher-student relationship is an essential part of effective education and cannot be replaced by artificial technology.

AI-Enabled Devices and Technology

Students may not bring, access, or use devices, applications, or technology that contain AI capabilities while at school, on the school bus, or during school-sponsored activities. This includes glasses, headphones, or any other type of wearable. Any violation of this policy will result in a zero grade on the assignment, confiscation of the device, loss of school computer usage privileges, and/or other disciplinary actions in increasing severity.

This policy supports our commitment to:

- Protecting the integrity of student learning.
- Encouraging personal responsibility and academic honesty.
- Maintaining a focused and meaningful learning environment.
- Protecting student privacy and safety.
- Preserving the importance of human relationships in education.

Commitment to Students and Families

Our goal is not to reject technology, but to ensure that technology is used in ways that support our mission and are appropriate for the age and developmental needs of our students. We believe elementary education should reflect biblical principles and prioritize the formation of God-fearing students, who are strong learners, selfless individuals, and responsible leaders who use their abilities with wisdom and purpose.

By limiting the use of AI in the elementary setting, we are intentionally creating an environment where students are encouraged to think deeply, work diligently, create independently, and grow in confidence through their own efforts.