UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN
UNIVERSITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

UPDATE ON THE GUIDANCE FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS ON THE USE OF GENAI IN EDUCATION

1. PURPOSE OF THE PAPER

This paper provides an update regarding the University’s approach to supporting staff and students with the use of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) tools in Education while upholding academic integrity and rigour. This paper provides a summary of the work completed to date.

The University Education Committee is invited to note this GenAI update paper for information.

2. PREVIOUS CONSIDERATION BY /FURTHER APPROVAL REQUIRED

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3. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Members of the UEC are provided with this paper for information only.

4. DISCUSSION

Our guidance for staff and for students on the use of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) tools in Education is continuously being refined to align with sector-specific evidence and the latest research findings. The guidance states the University’s commitment to supporting staff and students with using GenAI tools in a responsible, critical and ethical manner while upholding academic integrity and rigour.

The focus has been on the impact of GenAI tools on assessment practices but further support and guidance will be developed on the use of these tools to support teaching delivery and student learning.

We will continue to engage with the sector and our academic community to ensure that our guidance remains at the forefront of GenAI developments, assessment practices, teaching practice and student learning.

This paper provides an update on the latest guidance and outlines future work in this area.

4.1 Staff Guidance

The webpages for staff on AI & ChatGPT have been renamed Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI), and provides staff with the following:

- A link to our Generative Artificial Intelligence Case Study Form, for staff to share ideas and practice in using GenAI tools
- A link to the latest staff guidance on the use of GenAI tools in Education, which will be updated ahead of each term
- A link to a set of comprehensive postcards to provoke discussion and reflection around assessment approaches in an AI enabled world, which the National Centre for AI, JISC, codesigned with the sector

The guidance itself outlines the following:

1. The limitations and ethical considerations when using GenAI tools in Education
2. Communications to students on the use of GenAI tools

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3. Adapting assessments for an AI-enabled world
4. Dealing with a student suspected of academic misconduct in relation to GenAI tool use
5. Further information and resources

This guidance includes a new appendix outlining suggested text for communicating GenAI tool use, for staff to use/tailor as appropriate, including a link to a word version of Appendix 1, to facilitate copy/paste/edits by staff.

In addition, the webpages provide:

- Information on upcoming internal and external events on GenAI in Education
- A set of curated resources which have been shared amongst the sector and relevant communities

4.2 Student guidance

The new guidance for students on the use of GenAI tools in Education is available on the Academic Integrity webpages.

This guidance includes:

- Short video on GenAI and Academic Integrity
- Quick Guide on Acknowledging and Citing the Use of GenAI, for supporting students to acknowledge and cite the use of GenAI, where the use of such tools has been permitted
- Quick Guide on Assignment Notes, Drafts and Document Versioning, for supporting students to preserve and demonstrate their thought processes

In addition to the above guidance, the following academic integrity resources have been updated to reflect the additional guidance to students in relation to GenAI, as well as data falsification:

- Ensuring Academic Integrity Infographic
- Academic Integrity and Referencing Toolkit

5. CURRENT AND FUTURE WORK

The following work is currently taking place in relation to GenAI, Academic Integrity and Practice:

- School-level discussions on GenAI are being facilitated by CAD and the Dean for Educational Innovation
- A discussion Forum for staff on the impact of GenAI on Educational and Research Practice is being organised for November
- A session on GenAI and Academic Integrity and Practice is taking place at the Education Away Day on 7 November
- CAD and the Library are working together to identify opportunities for us to work collaboratively, such as running open sessions to identify FAQs that students and staff have, in relation to GenAI
- Schools have been provided with draft text for placing an initial and follow-up announcement on School MyAberdeen organisation areas, highlighting the updated academic integrity resources for students
- eLearning will be posting a MyAberdeen announcement on 4 October, reminding students about the updated academic integrity resources
- CAD are working with the Student Experience team on a communications campaign to remind students about the updated academic integrity resources and the support available

The following work will be taking place in the future:

- A review of our guidance on the use of GenAI tools in Education 3 times per year (1 month prior to each term), based on comments from the academic community, technological developments and evidence-based research and sector practice. If there are any exceptional developments outwith this cycle, the guidance will be updated and communications sent out in relation to this.
A taught postgraduate student will be selected to work with CAD and the Dean of Educational Innovation, on an InternPlus project starting in November, that will build on the work Felicia Ileladewa carried out during the summer, on students’ views of GenAI.

5. **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information is available from Professor Kirsty Kiezebrink, Dean for Educational Innovation (k.kiezebrink@abdn.ac.uk) or Dr Sara Preston, Senior eLearning Adviser, (s.preston@abdn.ac.uk) Centre for Academic Development.

[03 October 2023]

**Freedom of Information/Confidentiality Status**: Open