📄 AI in College: A Quick Guide for Students

🤖 What is AI?

Artificial Intelligence (AI) means getting computers to do things that usually need human intelligence — like answering questions, solving problems, or understanding language. Many AI tools learn and improve over time, a bit like how we do!

✦ What is Generative AI?

Generative AI is a type of AI that can *create* things like:

- 📝 Text (e.g. ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot)
- 🎨 Images (e.g. DALL·E)
- 💻 Code (e.g. GitHub Copilot)

You give it a prompt, and it comes up with something new!

⚒ How Can AI Help You in College?

AI tools can:
- Explain tricky topics in simple language
- Help you get creative ideas
- Suggest ways to improve your writing
- Create practice questions
- Help with revision

💬 Example prompts:
- "Explain climate change like I'm 10."
- "Check this email for grammar."
- "Give me ideas for a recycling poster."

✅ Use AI to support your learning — not do it for you!

🚫 How NOT to Use AI

Using AI the wrong way can get you into trouble at college. Here's what *not* to do:
- ❌ Don't ask AI to write your assignments for you
- ❌ Don't copy and paste answers and hand them in as your own

- ❌ Don't rely only on AI to study
- ❌ Don't assume everything AI says is 100% correct

💬 Bad prompt example:

"I have an assignment due. Can you write it for me?"

🚨 This is plagiarism and breaks college rules.

⚠️ What AI Can't Do

AI is cool, but it's not perfect:

- 🧠 It doesn't really *understand* what it says
- ❗ It can make mistakes or even make things up
- 📚 It can't give proper references
- ⚠️ It might repeat stereotypes or bias

So always **double-check** what AI tells you.

☑️ How to Use AI the Right Way in Assignments

If you use AI to help with your work, be open about it:
- Say what tool you used (e.g. ChatGPT)
- Say how it helped you (e.g. to get ideas or check grammar)
- Keep a screenshot or record of the AI chat

💬 Ask your tutor how to reference AI properly — it depends on your course.

🔒 Staying Safe with AI

When using AI tools, remember:

- 🚫 Don't share personal or college info
- 📄 Don't use college data without permission
- 📜 Check what the AI platform does with your data
- 👶 If you're under 18, you might need a parent or carer's permission to use some tools.

💬 Need Help?

Got questions or not sure how to use AI in your course? Talk to your tutor or contact the college Digital support team.

🧠 REMEMBER:

AI is here to help you *learn* — not *cheat*. The best work is always your own!