

Should you use GenAI? A question for students and staff

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What does the University say on the matter?



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“Whether the use of generative AI is required, encouraged, permitted or prohibited in your studies at Royal Holloway, particularly in the preparation of assessments, will depend on the subject you are studying. You must check this in the information about each of your assessments and, if you are uncertain, please check with the member of staff who is responsible for running the assessment.”

What the University says is appropriate



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- Educational and Research Purposes
- Collaborative Learning
- Personal Productivity
- Accessibility Support
- Idea Generation and Brainstorming
- Code Generation and Data Analysis



What the University says is inappropriate



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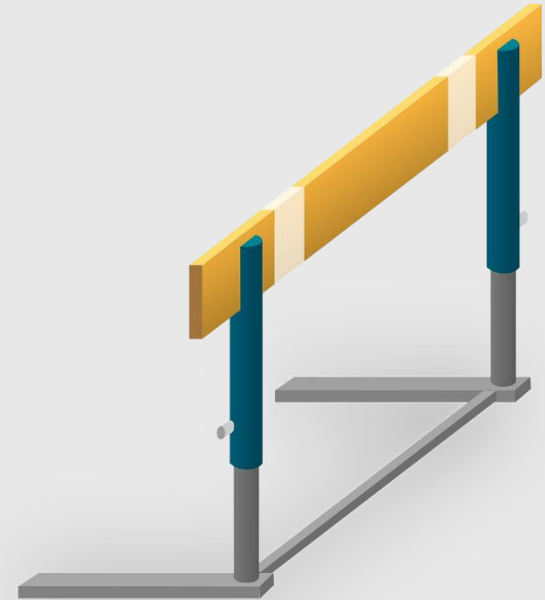
- Academic Dishonesty
- Plagiarism
- Harassment or Discrimination
- Excessive Resource Consumption



Challenges



- Staff: proficient users vs. non-proficient users
- Students: proficient users vs. non-proficient users
- Digital inequality
- Siloed working groups
- No centralised training
- Tools changing rapidly



Scenarios – would this be ethical / appropriate



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- Using a generative AI Tool to generate written content for a thesis or journal article.
- Using an AI Tool to proofread your assignment and make corrections.
- Uploading a PDF of a journal article that you have downloaded from the library's collection into an AI Tool for the purposes of summarising it.
- Using GenAI to create an essay plan for an assignment.
- Using an AI Tool to create images for a poster for a conference.
- Using GenAI to explain key concepts on a topic.
- Using GenAI to suggest academic resources for an assignment topic.

Using ChatGPT for a research activity



GenAI generated references – evaluation



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References

- [1] C. Zhang, J. Lee, and P. Nguyen, "Advances in Lithium-Ion Battery Technology for Electric Vehicles," *IEEE Trans. Intell. Transp. Syst.*, vol. 6, no. 2, pp. 1024-1035, Jun. 2023.
- [2] J. Li, S. He, Q. Yang, Z. Wei, Y. Li, and H. He, "A Comprehensive Review of Second Life Batteries Toward Sustainable Mechanisms: Potential, Challenges, and Future Prospects," *IEEE Trans. Transp. Electrification*, vol. 9, no. 4, pp. 4824–4845, Dec. 2023.
- [3] Office for Zero Emission Vehicles, "Electric vehicles: costs, charging and infrastructure," Accessed: Nov. 20, 2024. [Online]. Available: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/electric-vehicles-costs-charging-and-infrastructure/electric-vehicles-costs-charging-and-infrastructure>
- [4] J. Clarkson, "Electric vehicles can explode – petrol ones only do it in movies," *The Sun*, Jul. 2023. Accessed: Nov. 20, 2024. [Online]. Available: <https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/23240656/jeremy-clarkson-electric-vehicles-exploding-dangerous-petrol/>
- [5] M. Johnson, "Challenges in Scaling EV Adoption: Critical Mineral Shortages," *International Journal of Sustainable Vehicles*, vol. 3, no. 4, pp. 203-215, Nov. 2024.

Ethical considerations for the use of GenAI



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Conclusion



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- Different courses for different horses
- Both staff and students need guidance
- Guidance might vary depending on the discipline
- Difficult to keep up with ever-changing tools
- Critical thinking needs to be embedded

