

The South Slave Divisional Education Council (SSDEC) recognizes the transformative potential of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education. AI tools can enhance teaching, learning, and administrative efficiency while presenting challenges related to privacy, equity, and ethics. This policy establishes mandatory requirements for the ethical and responsible use of AI, supported by implementation guidelines.

The purpose of this policy is to:

1. Establish clear expectations for the acceptable use of AI technologies within SSDEC schools.
2. Ensure compliance with legal requirements, including the Northwest Territories Education Act and Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act (ATIPP Act).
3. Mitigate risks associated with bias, inaccuracy, and misuse of AI tools.
4. Promote innovation, inclusivity, and equitable access to AI technologies for students and staff.

This policy applies to all students, staff, administrators, and others using AI tools within SSDEC schools, networks, and devices.

REGULATIONS

1. Acceptable Use

AI tools may be used for:

- Supporting and enhancing teaching and learning through intelligent tutoring, personalized instruction, and creativity tools.
- Performing administrative tasks such as data analysis, scheduling, and communication.
- Facilitating professional development and fostering innovation.

2. Prohibited Use

AI tools must *not* be used for:

- Academic dishonesty, such as cheating or plagiarism.
- Generating harmful, discriminatory, or inappropriate content.
- Violating student or staff privacy.
- Disrupting the learning environment or compromising safety.

3. Data Privacy and Security

- AI tools must comply with the ATIPP Act and SSDEC policies on data protection.
- Personal information must not be entered into AI tools without safeguards in place.
- Only approved AI tools with robust privacy protections, such as Google's Gemini app, may be used.
- Student data must be used solely for educational purposes and with appropriate consent.

4. Ethical Considerations

- AI tools must not replace the professional judgment or responsibilities of educators.
- Educators are responsible for teaching students about the ethical implications of AI, including bias and critical thinking.
- Teachers may establish expectations for AI use in assignments and assessments.

5. Compliance and Enforcement

- Each principal is responsible for ensuring compliance with this policy in their school.
- Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, including loss of access to AI tools or other consequences as determined by SSDEC.

Definitions

1. **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Technologies enabling machines to perform tasks requiring human intelligence, such as reasoning, problem-solving, and language understanding.
2. **AI Tools:** Software and platforms that leverage AI for educational or administrative purposes.
3. **Generative AI:** A subset of AI capable of creating new content, such as text, images, and music.

SSDEC AI Usage Guidelines

Recommended Practices

1. **Training and Professional Development**
 - Staff should receive ongoing training to effectively and ethically use AI tools.
 - Schools should facilitate discussions on AI's potential and its limitations, including bias and inaccuracy.
2. **Equitable Access**
 - Schools should provide equitable access to approved AI tools for all students, particularly those from marginalized communities.
3. **Data Privacy and Security**
 - Avoid entering sensitive personal information into AI systems.
 - Review the terms and conditions of AI tools to understand their data usage policies.
4. **AI in Assessments and Learning**
 - Teachers should clarify the acceptable use of AI in assignments, emphasizing its role in enhancing learning, not replacing learning.
 - Incorporate triangulation of data to verify the authenticity of student work.
5. **Ethical Considerations**
 - Foster critical thinking by encouraging students to evaluate the output of AI tools.
 - Highlight AI's potential biases and the importance of context in interpreting its outputs.

Review and Revision

This Policy/ Usage Guidelines will be reviewed periodically to ensure their relevance and effectiveness in addressing the evolving landscape of AI in education and the specific context of the Northwest Territories.

Reference: *Education Act*
 NWT Access to Information and Protection of Privacy (ATIPP) Act
 Child and Family Services Act (NWT)
 Human Rights Act (NWT)
 Digital Charter Implementation Act (Canada)
 OECD Principles on Artificial Intelligence
 UNESCO Ethical Guidelines for AI in Education
 SSDEC Policy ADA – Principles for Working and Learning Together
 SSDEC Policy IFC – Safe and Caring Schools
 SSDEC Policy IFCB – Computer Use

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