EDUCATE VENTURES RESEARCH

Educate Ventures Research is an **innovative boutique consultancy** and **training provider** dedicated to helping **education** organisations leverage **AI** to **unlock insights, enhance learning,** and **drive positive outcomes** and **impact.**

ROSE LUCKIN

The EVR team is led by Rose Luckin, Founder/CEO, and Professor of Learner Centred Design at UCL. Rose is an internationally respected AI and education Thought Leader, Author and Speaker, with 30 years in the AI for education industry.

What we do:

- **Online and in-person training:** to help professionals and organisations build AI capabilities, particularly those working in the education and training sector
    - **We've worked with:** ASCL, COBIS, Hounslow Education Partnership, 3-18 Education Trust, Blue Kite Trust
- **Consultancy services:** our team of data, AI and behavioural scientists work closely with clients to help them leverage AI effectively to enhance human learning
    - **We've worked with: Arizona State University, Nord Anglia Education, Cambridge, Singapore MInistry of Education**
- **Thought leadership:** we actively share our expertise through conferences, publications, and the acclaimed Edtech Podcast to advance the ethical use of AI to empower people
    - **We've worked with: Westminster Education Forum, Google, COP26, Open University, Kings College, OECD, Pearson, Chegg**

The EVR Difference

- **Specialist expertise:** in human learning and AI
- **Focus:** on the ethical, empowering applications of AI
- **Experience:** our clients range from schools and universities, to government agencies and EdTech companies worldwide
- **Evidence and impact:** each engagement is approached through an inclusive, evidence-based process focused on impact
- **Responsible innovation:** as sector thought leaders, we also advocate for policies and practices to promote responsible innovation in AI for education
- **"Everyone Learning All of the Time":** is our company motto, which means every team member is learning and upskilling for their benefit and for those around them

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CONTACT ROSE AND THE EVR TEAM

Would you like to stay informed on AI for Education news and insights or have a conversation with us?
Visit educateventures.com or email hello@educateventures.com

RESOURCES: The EVR Resource Bank

- **Books:** including Professor Rose Luckin's 2018 free ebook, 'Machine Learning and Human Intelligence'
- **Courses:** including the AI Readiness Online Course
- **Diagnostic Tools**
- **Libraries:** including the EdTech research and webinar libraries
- **Research Reports:** including 'Beyond the Hype' and 'Shape of the Future'
- **Risk Assessments**

NEWSLETTER: The Skinny on AI for Education

- **Newsletter:** discover the latest insights at the intersection of AI and education from Professor Rose Luckin and the Educate Ventures Research Team. From personalised learning to smart classrooms, we decode AI's impact on education. We analyse the news, track developments in AI technology, watch what is happening with regulation and policy and discuss what all of it means for Education. Stay informed, navigate responsibly, and shape the future of learning with The Skinny.

TALK TO US STAY INFORMED

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Getting Started with AI Safeguarding in Schools: Understanding the Risks and Taking Action

Introduction
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming education, offering powerful tools that can enhance teaching and learning. However, this technology brings new safeguarding challenges that schools must address. This guide aims to help school leaders and staff understand why AI safeguarding matters and how to begin addressing these challenges effectively.

Why AI Requires Specific Safeguarding Attention

The Unique Nature of AI Risks
AI tools can seem deceptively human-like and trustworthy
- AI systems can produce highly convincing but false or inappropriate content
- The technology evolves rapidly, often outpacing existing safeguarding measures
- AI tools are increasingly accessible to students both in and out of school and are easy to use, often require little or no technical expertise

Impact on Traditional Safeguarding
Traditional safeguarding approaches need updating because:
- AI introduces new far-reaching forms of potential harm
- Existing policies may not address AI-specific risks
- Staff may lack awareness of AI capabilities and limitations
- Standard monitoring and intervention strategies may be insufficient

Key AI Safeguarding Priorities

1. Protecting from Misplaced Trust
- Students may over-rely on AI for emotional support or advice
- AI responses can seem authoritative but may be incorrect or harmful
- Young people may share sensitive personal information with AI systems

2. Safeguarding Personal Data
- AI systems often collect and process personal data
- Student work and interactions may be used to train AI models
- There are privacy implications of AI use need careful consideration

3. Preventing Misuse and Harm
- AI can be used to create convincing fake content
- There is potential for cyberbullying using AI-generated material
- There are risks that students may inadvertently access inappropriate content through AI tools

4. Ensuring Equal Access and Support
- The digital divide and existing inequalities may create safeguarding vulnerabilities
- Some students may be more exposed to AI risks than others
- There is therefore a need for inclusive safeguarding approaches

5. Protecting Student Agency and Skills
- AI brings a risk of over-dependence on AI tools
- AI highlights the importance of maintaining critical thinking skills
- There is a need to help students develop a healthy, critical relationships with AI technology

Why Specific Training is Essential

School staff need dedicated AI safeguarding training because:

1. **Unique Challenges**: AI presents distinct risks that require specific knowledge and strategies
2. **Rapid Evolution**: The technology changes quickly, requiring regular updates to knowledge and practice
3. **Complex Integration**: Schools need to balance educational benefits with safeguarding responsibilities
4. **Student Support**: Staff must be equipped to guide students in safe AI use
5. **Legal Compliance**: Understanding of AI-related data protection and safeguarding requirements is crucial

Initial Steps for Schools

Immediate Actions

1. Review current safeguarding policies through an AI lens
2. Audit existing AI use in your school
3. Identify key stakeholders for AI safeguarding
4. Assess staff training needs
5. Begin developing AI-specific guidelines

Recommended Approach

1. Take a whole-school approach to AI safeguarding
2. Involve all stakeholders in policy development
3. Prioritise staff awareness and training
4. Establish clear reporting procedures for AI-related concerns
5. Regularly review and update safeguarding measures

Getting Support

AI safeguarding is an essential aspect of modern school safety that requires specific attention and expertise. While the challenges may seem daunting, taking proactive steps to understand and address AI risks is crucial for protecting students while enabling them to benefit from this transformative technology.

We appreciate that effectively implementing AI safeguarding in your school creating can seem a little overwhelming, but you don't need to do it alone. For further guidance and support with training and development as well as policy guidance:

- Contact Educate Ventures Research by emailing hello@educateventures.com for specialist advice and support