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Guidance on the use of generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) in student work at the AA School of Architecture

The AA recognises that generative AI is increasingly used in the production of student work at the school, including, but not limited to, the creation of texts, images, codes and prompts. Although AI can be disruptive, it also offers new opportunities for critical thinking and analysis, and opens up questions of authorship. These are conversations that the AA is able and willing to have as a community. Therefore the AA will embrace, rather than restrict, the use of generative AI in the production of student work. AI must always be used ethically, with integrity and transparency, and in the spirit of invention and creativity. Staff should be prepared to engage with students that wish to utilise AI in their work.

Students must be aware that there are issues associated with the use of generative AI that may impact their learning in a negative way, including those of inaccuracy and bias. The databases on which AI depend are often aggregations that are unchecked and not transparent to the user, and may themselves contain texts and images that are plagiarised or wrongly attributed. The algorithms within AI for generating texts can generate statements that may seem coherent in style but have no correspondence to reality or truth. Responsibility for this therefore lies with the user, with correct citation and attribution to be used at all times. Failure to declare the use of AI will lead to the work in question being recognised as plagiarism, and will therefore be subject to the Plagiarism and Student Work Substitution Procedure in the AA Academic Regulations.

Students and staff should avoid entering their own or third party personal data into generative AI as there is a risk that such personal data will be retained by the AI platform or service.