

NEA, coursework and AI

Rules and regulations

What is NEA/coursework?

- NEA is non-examined assessment – work that you complete that counts towards your final mark for a course that is not done in the exam hall.
- Coursework is basically the same – but this term only applies for OCR Nationals/Technicals and project qualifications (AQA Extended Project in sixth form)
- Not all courses have NEA/coursework.

Who sets the rules?

- The Joint Council for Qualifications (JCQ) is the organisation that oversees all of the exam boards and sets the general rules around qualifications, including exams, NEA and coursework.
- In addition, each course has specific rules about NEA/coursework.
- There are set procedures that have to be followed if school staff, moderators or examiners suspect that rules have been broken.

General rules

- You must not get help from anyone other than your subject teacher.
- You must meet the deadline – we cannot give you an extension unless there are special circumstances, and even then it can only be a short one.
- You must keep your work secure and not share it with others – including posting on social media.
- The work that you submit must be your own.
- You must use referencing to show where you have used information from other sources – including AI - whether you are quoting directly or rewriting it in your own words. Your teacher will advise on this.

What happens if I break the rules?

- If you break the rules, there are a range of penalties that can be applied by the awarding body:
 - the piece of work could be awarded zero marks
 - you could be disqualified from that component for the examination series in question
 - you could be disqualified from the whole subject for that examination series
 - you could be disqualified from all subjects and barred from entering again for a period of time.

What happens if I break the rules?

- Ultimately, there are no shortcuts to real learning. If you cheat on NEA/coursework, you are just cheating yourself.
- If you need help, make sure that you ask the teacher well ahead of the deadline.
- **It is simply not worth the risk...**

Can I use AI?

- There are rules around the use of AI that you need to be familiar with.
- You **must not** submit work **generated or improved** by an AI tool as your own.
- The general rule is that you can use it as a source, as long as you keep a copy of what the AI generated, and reference it as a source, as you would with a book, website etc.

Should I use AI?

- AI tools are **not a reliable source of information** – they make things up when they do not know the answer. This is known as AI hallucination.
- **Our advice is therefore to avoid using AI as a source.**

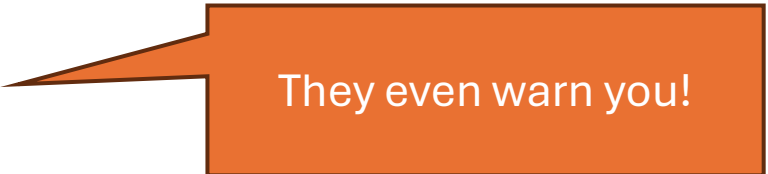
Beware the Google AI overview

- If you quote from it, you need to reference it like you would any other source

BUT

- It is not a reliable source, so best avoided...

AI responses may include mistakes. [Learn more](#)



They even warn you!

Beware the Google AI overview

is it okay to use ai for coursework

AI Mode **All** Short videos Images Forums Videos News More ▾ Tools ▾

✦ AI Overview

Using AI for coursework is only okay if it is used strictly as a learning and brainstorming aid, rather than a substitute for your own writing or critical thinking. Using AI to generate essays, reports, or data and passing it off as your own is considered **academic misconduct or cheating** and carries severe penalties.  GOV.UK blogs +4

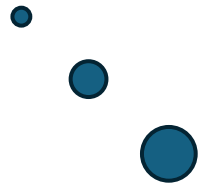
Me: That
seems
okay....

Beware the Google AI overview

Use Built-in Tools Safely: Routine functions in software like Microsoft Word, Google Docs, or Grammarly for spellchecking or grammar corrections are almost always acceptable and generally do not require a declaration.  Newcastle University +1

This is simply not true...Grammarly is an issue, as it rewrites for you using AI – it isn't just a spell check.

I know this as I have expertise in this area – if you aren't an expert in a subject, how will you know what is correct and what isn't?



Also me: Oh dear...

Should I use AI?

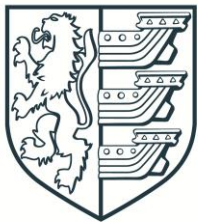
- Using AI could prevent you from demonstrating the skills that you need to hit the mark scheme, as you have had assistance.
- You could therefore get lower marks.

AI for schoolwork – student guidance

- We have produced some guidance on the use of AI for schoolwork.
- This will be shared with students and with parents/carers/guardians - make sure that you read it.
- If you have any questions, do ask someone at school.

Show the Northgate Values

- **Respect** the rules – they make sure that the system is fair.
- Show **determination** – do your work to the best of your ability.
- Use **teamwork** – work with your teacher if you need help and advice.



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Where can I find more information?

- The information from JCQ is on the school website in Learning/Examinations/Information for candidates.
- I will send a link to your school email and to parent/carer/guardian(s) via email.

HOME → LEARNING → EXAMINATIONS →
INFORMATION FOR CANDIDATES

Information for Candidates

The following information is published by the Joint Council for Qualifications and applies to all examination courses. Students and parent/carers should ensure that they have read and understood this information and follow the rules. If you have any queries about this information, please contact Mr Hill, Examinations Officer.

JCQ - General Information



JCQ - Written Examinations



JCQ - Coursework & Non-Examination Assessment



INFORMATION FOR
CANDIDATES - NON-
EXAMINATION
ASSESSMENT

INFORMATION
FOR
CANDIDATES -
COURSEWORK

What should I do if I have any queries or concerns?

Make sure that you speak with your subject teacher – they are the expert in what is or isn't allowed for that course.

