

AI in the Classroom

What role will Artificial Intelligence (AI) play in Australian classrooms?

AI is no longer emerging; it is now embedded in many Australian schools. From lesson planning and feedback to student support and system-wide implementation, educators are shifting from experimentation to practical, policy-guided integration.

In 2027, this conversation will become even more urgent. The Australian Government has announced a new Office of AI, a single national framework and proposed mandatory Australian Standards for AI, with legislation expected to be introduced early in 2027. For schools, AI is no longer simply an IT question or a response to cheating, it is a governance, safety, curriculum, capability and duty-of-care challenge.

The AI in the Classroom stream at the 2027 National Education Summit explores how educators can move beyond trial use to effective, safe, ethical, and scalable implementation, improving learning outcomes while addressing emerging challenges such as assessment integrity, data privacy, intellectual property child safety, equity and whole-school readiness.

Focus Areas

Presenters are encouraged to submit proposals aligned with one or more of the following themes:

1. AI Literacy, Ethics & Safe Use

-  Building AI literacy for both students and educators (prompting, evaluation, critical use, and responsible decision making)
-  Addressing bias, misinformation, and over-reliance on AI-generated content
-  Teaching safe and ethical use aligned with Australian frameworks, School policies and emerging national standards
-  Navigating emerging risks such as deepfakes, AI companions, chatbots, disinformation and student data protection

2. AI Governance, Duty of Care & School Readiness

-  Preparing for the proposed national AI framework and mandatory Australian Standards expected to shape school practice in 2027
-  Moving from ad hoc teacher-by-teacher use to clear whole-school policy, visible leadership and accountable governance
-  Understanding AI as a duty-of-care issue, with clearer expectations around child safety, age-appropriate use and safeguards
-  Developing practical AI policies for procurement, approval, privacy, cyber safety, parent communication and risk management
-  Mapping current school practice to identify capability gaps before external standards or system expectations arrive

3. AI-Enhanced Teaching, Learning & Productivity

-  Practical classroom use of generative AI for planning, differentiation, feedback resource creation and student support
-  AI as a co-teacher: supporting writing, inquiry, creativity, and critical thinking (not replacing it)
-  Reducing teacher workload through automation of admin, marking, reporting, and resources (a key national priority)
-  Using AI tools to improve accessibility, personalisation, and timely feedback while maintaining quality and trust

4. Assessment, Academic Integrity & Curriculum Design

-  Rethinking assessment in an AI-enabled world, including authentic tasks
-  Addressing academic integrity and appropriate student use of AI tools across year levels and learning areas
-  Designing curriculum that integrates, not avoids AI capability
-  Aligning classroom practice with evolving system and policy guidance

5. Whole School Implementation

- ✚ Moving from pilots to whole-school or system-wide AI strategies
- ✚ Safe procurement, tool selection, and approval processes
- ✚ Leadership strategies for sustainable AI adoption

6. Equity, Inclusion & Student Wellbeing

- ✚ Using AI to support diverse learners, accessibility, and multilingual classrooms, neurodiverse students and personalised learning
- ✚ Addressing the digital divide and unequal access to AI capability across schools, communities, and systems
- ✚ Understanding wellbeing implications of AI including dependency, agency, motivation, social connection and student confidence

💡 Why It Matters - AI is now a strategic lever in Australian education:

- ✚ Personalise learning experiences, and support diverse student needs
- ✚ Improved student engagement, feedback and learning design
- ✚ Reduce teacher workload & administrative burden
- ✚ Strengthen school governance, duty of care and parent confidence
- ✚ Prepare educators and students for the proposed 2027 national AI standards and a rapidly changing world of work
- ✚ Empower schools to move from reactive tool use to purposeful, ethical and scalable implementation

But with opportunity comes responsibility. Submissions should offer:

- Hands-on, practical demonstrations, audience engagement or take-away resources that educators can adapt in their own context
- Practical insights or research-based strategies relevant to K-12 educators
- Clear examples of safe, ethical and effective AI use in classrooms, leadership, curriculum or school operations

Submissions will be accepted based on criteria, relevance to K-12 educators, providing a mix across the various strands and topics.