Connecting Steps Advanced Features

Presented by: Dale Pickles, Managing Director, B Squared

B Squared

- B Squared products are all about supporting pupils with SEND

- We help schools to show the small steps of progress pupils with SEND make.

- Different frameworks for different ages and ability - EYFS, Primary and an Autism profiling tool

- Reduces teacher workload - identifies next steps, shows progress and supports meaningful communication

- Our products are used by around 15,000 schools

- We have over 25 years experience around showing progress for pupils with SEND

- We talk to hundreds of schools every year about their difficulties around assessment, data and showing progress for pupils with SEND and help them to solve these problems.

Dale Pickles

- Managing Director of B Squared

- Worked in SEND for over 20 years

- Supports schools around assessment, data and showing progress for pupils with SEND

- Host of the award winning SENDcast - podcast for Special Needs

- Host of the SEND Briefings and training courses on our Training for Education CPD website

The SENDcast was the winner in the Publication of the Year category in the 2022 nasen awards

Generative AI

An Advanced Language Model or a Generative AI is a tool that generates text based on your prompts. The most widely known is ChatGPT.

There is lots of news about AI, typically negative, often because of fear or lack of understanding. AI will have a similar level of impact on our lives that the introduction of computers and the internet had.

It is here to stay and it is a game changer!

Generative AI

There is a Facebook Group called ChatGPT for Teachers that will help you learn how you can use ChatGPT and other AIs to help you in your role.

Lesson Plans, report writing, translation, rewriting text to different reading age, rewriting text about the child so that it is written to the child. They can generate multiple choice quizzes for any age or ability. They can explain concepts using a variety of metaphors.

ChatGPT is free to use, so have a play

Generative AI

Currently AI is like a 6 year-old with access to every bit of text on the internet. It struggles with context and can give false information or be misleading. You can also mislead AI to get an answer you want.

There are morals within ChatGPT. It won't give an opinion around religion, beliefs or politics. It won't answer questions that involve illegal or harmful activities. But you can currently easily outsmart the AI.

Children are likely to be already using AI. For example, it is now built into Snapchat (My AI). To help protect children it is important to understand and use AI, not hide away from it.

Chat GPT

Generative AI

In the "Generative Artificial Intelligence in Education" document, they are generally referring to the publicly available Generative AI Tools like ChatGPT. There is a lack of privacy with these tools.

Some guidance is applicable to all generative AI systems, others apply to public/open AI systems. We are using a private generative AI that is secure and private (not public) and the data is not used to train AI.

"Generative AI stores and learns from data inputted. To ensure privacy of individuals, personal and sensitive data should not be entered into generative AI tools. Any data entered should not be identifiable and should be considered released to the internet"
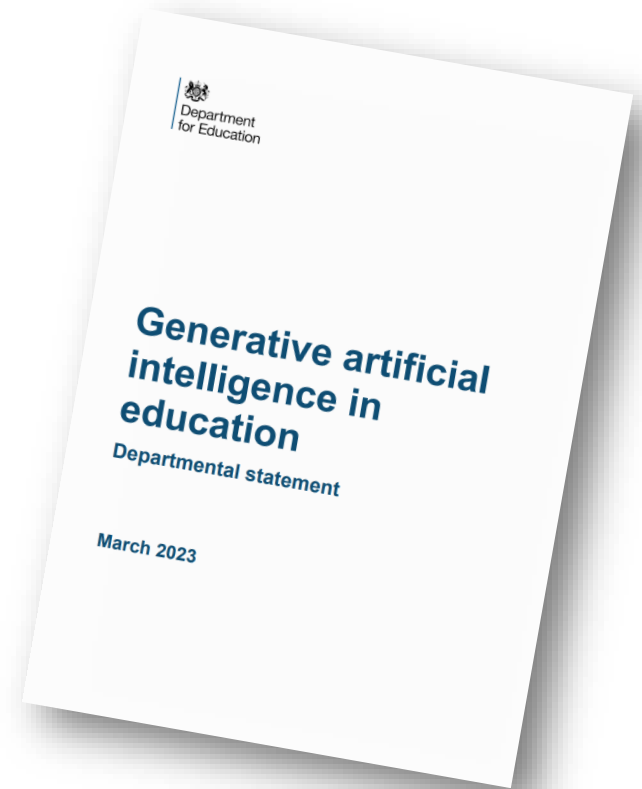
Department for Education

Generative artificial intelligence in education

Departmental statement

March 2023
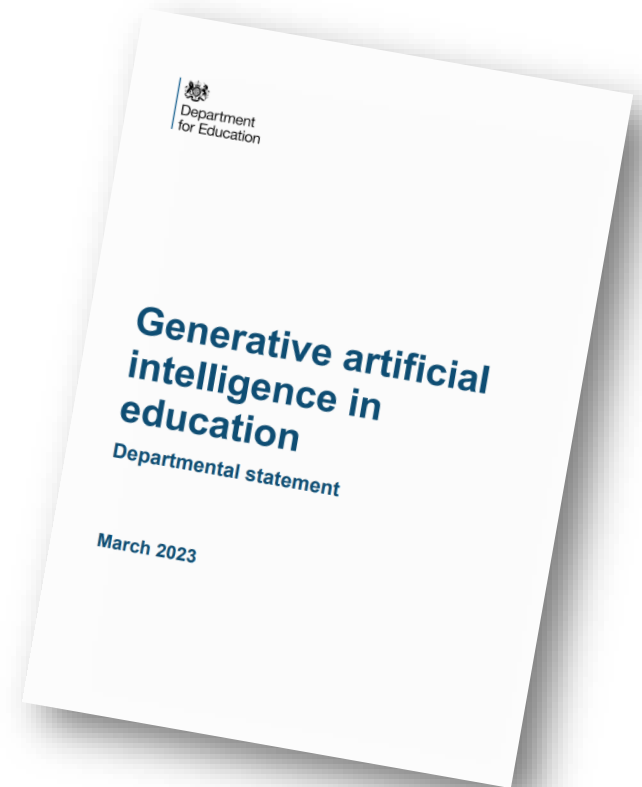
Generative AI

"When used appropriately, technology (including generative AI), has the potential to reduce workload across the education sector, and free up teachers' time, allowing them to focus on delivering excellent teaching"

"Generative AI tools can produce unreliable information, therefore any content produced requires professional judgement to check appropriateness and accuracy."

"Whatever tools or resources are used in the production of administrative plans, policies or documents, the quality and content of the final document remains the professional responsibility of the person who produces it and the organisation they belong to."
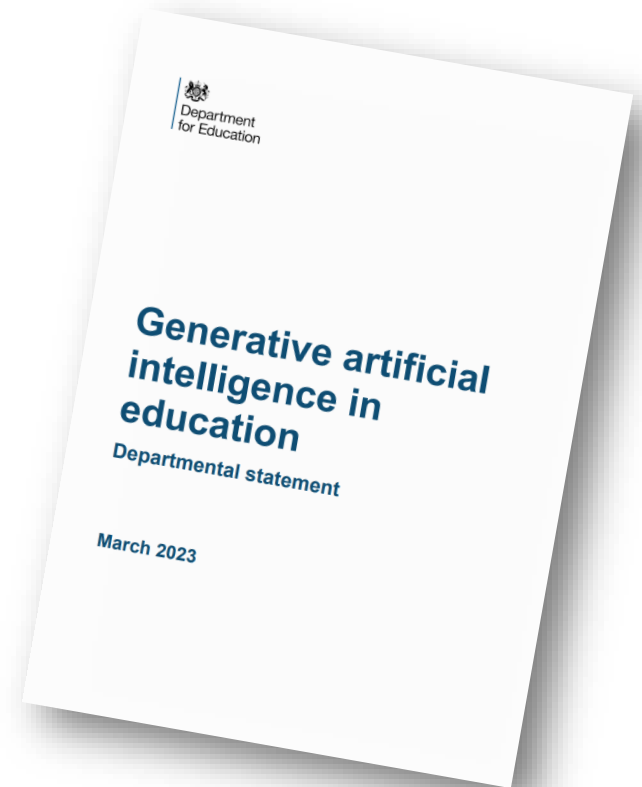
Department for Education

Generative artificial intelligence in education
Departmental statement

March 2023

B Squared's Generative AI

- Our Generative AI Model is ChatGPT 3.5

- We are using our own private instance of Microsoft Azure ChatGPT

- No personally identifiable information is sent to the Azure ChatGPT API

- We are **not** using OpenAI's version of ChatGPT

- No customer data is used for training the AI

- No changes are needed to our Terms and Conditions as Microsoft Azure is already included and this is a private instance of ChatGPT

- Data does not leave the EU

Department for Education

Generative artificial intelligence in education

Departmental statement

March 2023

3 New Advanced Features

Using our Generative AI, Connecting Steps can now generate the following for you:
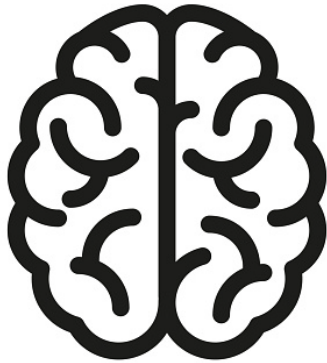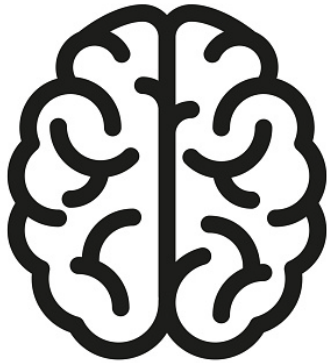
Summarise Achievements

Summarise Next Steps

Create a lesson plan

Summarising Achievements and Next Steps can be written to the parents or the child. They can be written in multiple languages
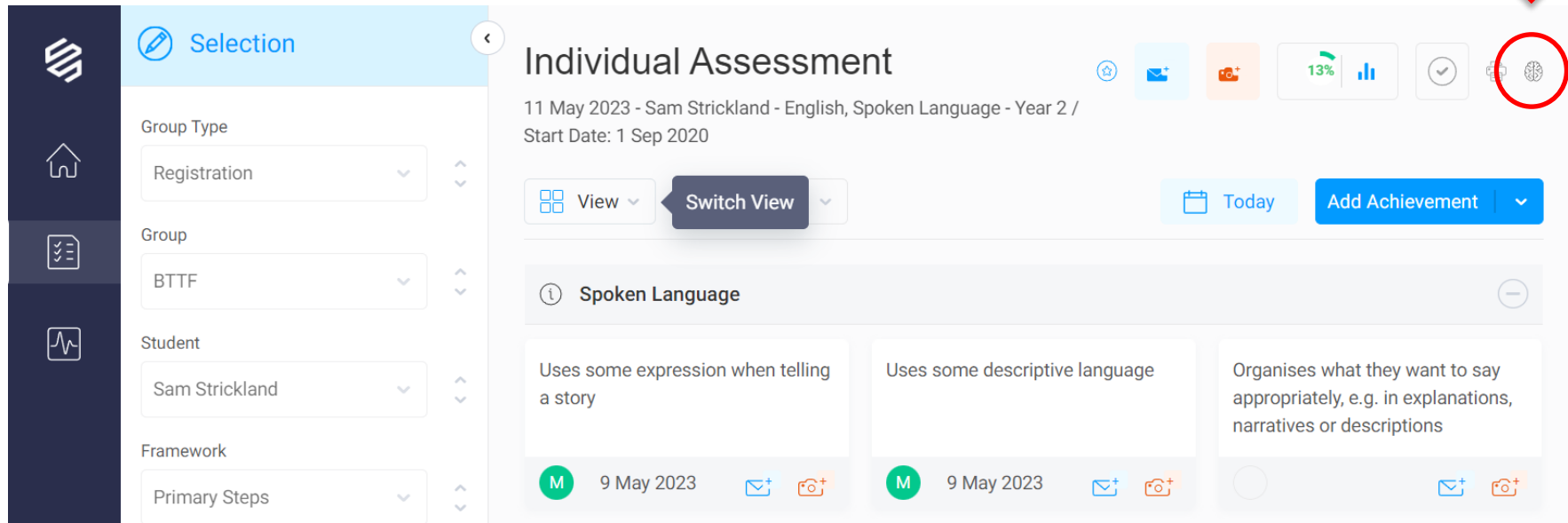
3 New Advanced Features

These new advanced features are free to use till the end of the school year. This is so you get to try the new tools out and we can collect feedback.

From the start of the 2023/2024 year, the annual cost will be £1 per pupil (purchased in bands).

You can play with them right now!

3 New Advanced Features

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3 New Advanced Features

Summarise Key Achievements

It is easy to summarise a pupil's key achievements into short paragraphs that can then be copy and pasted into reports or other documents.

Choose a few key achievements that have been achieved (Green) on the Individual Assessments screen, then click on the brain icon in the top right.

OR

Choose some key achievements on the Assessments Achieved screen, then click on the 3 dots in the top right and click on the brain icon.

Choose Summarise Achievements, choose who you want the summary written to and finally choose the language it is written in. Click Generate. You can then click on Copy to Clipboard to copy the generated text.

If you ask for a language other than English, it will provide a reply in English and the language specified.

Summarise Key Achievements

A summary written to Edward's parents by Connecting Steps…

"Edward has made good progress in mastering writing numbers to 10, matching numerals to 20, and comparing two groups using counting. He is gaining skills and understanding in identifying and representing numbers using objects, pictorial representations, and the number line, as well as consistently comparing numbers to 20. However, he has not started describing the position of objects using ordinal numbers or matching ordinal numbers to cardinal numbers. He also needs to work on naming a digit as the 'tens' or 'units' in a number to 20, estimating where to place a number on a number line to 20, and making sensible estimates using non-standard measures."

Summarise Key Achievements

The same summary but written to Edward by Connecting Steps…

"Good job, Edward! You're getting really good at writing numbers up to 10, matching numbers up to 20, and counting to compare groups of things. You can now tell how many things there are by looking at pictures and you're really good at comparing things that have numbers up to 20. We can keep working on using words like 'first' or 'second' to talk about where things are and matching those words with the right numbers. It would also be helpful to practice saying which number is in the 'tens' or 'ones' place in numbers up to 20, guessing where a number goes on a number line up to 20, and making good guesses using things like blocks or other objects. Keep up the good work, Edward!"

Summarise Key Achievements

A summary generated in English and Italian...

"Basil is able to read adhering to punctuation, using differing voice to express question or exclamation marks. Basil can point out words which do not conform to spelling rules they know, but may require support to read the words correctly. Basil uses knowledge of phonic structure confidently when attempting new or unusual words, and can provide suggestions on meaning which use simple knowledge of etymology. Basil can retell a story orally, including the main themes and ideas. Lastly, Basil is able to pinpoint vocabulary that captures interest and imagination, explaining why in simple terms."

"Basil è in grado di leggere rispettando la punteggiatura e usando intonazione differente per esprimere segni di domanda o esclamazione. Basil è in grado di individuare le parole che non rispettano le regole di ortografia che conosce ma potrebbe aver bisogno di supporto per leggere correttamente. Basil utilizza con sicurezza la conoscenza della struttura fonica quando affronta parole nuove o insolite e può offrire suggerimenti sul significato che utilizzano una semplice conoscenza dell'etimologia. Basil sa ripetere oralmente una storia, inclusi i suoi principali temi e idee. Infine, è in grado di individuare il vocabolario che cattura l'attenzione e l'immaginazione, spiegandone il motivo in termini semplici."

Summarise Next Steps

It is easy to summarise a pupil's next steps into short paragraphs that can then be copy and pasted into reports or other documents.

Choose a few key next steps (not green) on the Individual Assessments screen,
then click on the brain icon in the top right.

OR

Choose some key next steps on the Assessments to be Achieved screen, then click
on the 3 dots in the top right and click on the brain icon.

Choose Summarise Next Steps, choose who you want the summary written to and finally choose the language it is written in. Click Generate. You can then click on Copy to Clipboard to copy the generated text.

If you ask for a language other than English, it will provide a reply in English and the language specified.

Summarise Next Steps

Summary of Next Steps written by Connecting Steps…

"Sam needs to work on articulating why they feel a certain way, using storytelling vocabulary, expressing their own feelings about a straightforward subject clearly, putting their point of view across simply, and speculating on what has been said."

"You're doing really well, and I'm here to help you learn and have fun together! Let's practice some exciting things. First, we can talk about how we feel and use words to explain why. That helps others understand us better. Then, we can make our stories super fun by using special words. They make our stories even more amazing! When we talk about easy things, let's make sure we say what we think clearly. Others want to understand us easily. You also have your own special thoughts, so let's share them in a simple way. People love to hear what you think! Finally, let's use our imagination and guess what others say. We can imagine different things and think about what might happen next. You're doing a fantastic job, Sam! By practicing these things, you'll get even better at talking. Keep up the excellent work!"

Create a Lesson Plan

It is easy to create a lesson plan that can then be copy and pasted into other documents.

Choose a few key next steps (not green) on the Individual Assessments screen,
then click on the brain icon in the top right.

OR

Choose some key next steps on the Assessments to be Achieved screen, then click
on the 3 dots in the top right and click on the brain icon.

Choose Lesson Plan, type in the topic you are doing and the resources you have available. Click Generate and
it will generate your lesson plan. You can then click on Copy to Clipboard to copy the generated text.

The lesson plan won't be perfect, but it will create something you can easily adapt to meet your needs.

Review Your Generated Content

Do not simply take what Connecting Steps created and use it.

"the quality and content of the final document remains the professional responsibility of the person who produces it and the organisation they belong to."

You need to review what has been written.
You may use all of it, some of it, you might add to it or remove parts.

It is designed to save you time and reduce workload. The summaries are based on the key skills you have identified, so they are personalised and will make report writing easier, but it might require adaptation.

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Share Feedback

Share your feedback to help us improve what Connecting Steps generates. If what it generated is not what you wanted, click on the provide feedback button and tell us. We can then improve what Connecting Steps generates.
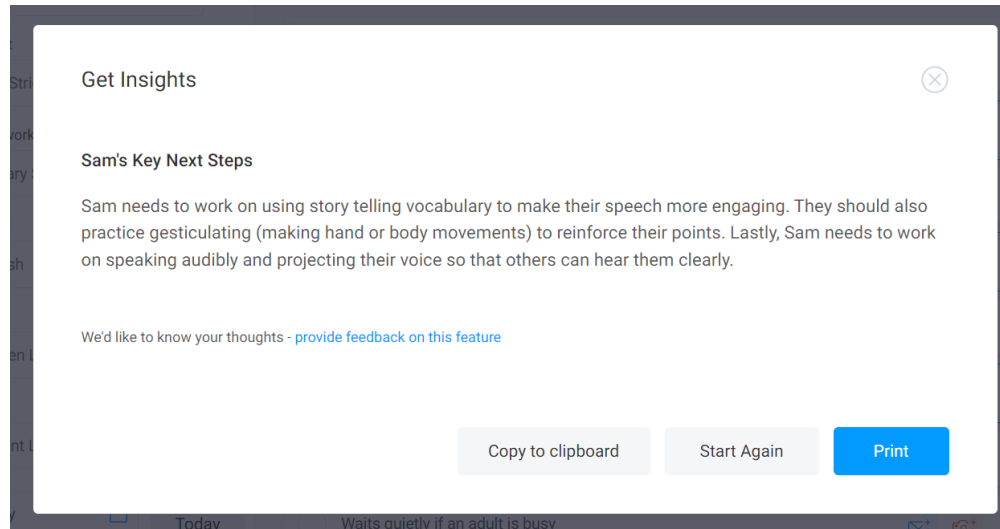
Improving Knowledge Around SEND

- FREE podcast, listen via the website, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Audible, Amazon Music and any other podcast app

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- Created to support everyone in schools, parents and more.

www.thesendcast.com

Or just search SENDcast in any podcast app

Q&A – Ask Your Questions

If you have any questions and haven't asked already,

please ask your questions in the chat window.

Dale Pickles – *email me for more information or if you have any questions*

dale@bsquared.co.uk

Book a FREE online meeting with me using the button below if you want to discuss target setting and data

Podcast - www.thesendcast.com

Dale Pickles – *email me for more information or if you want a copy of my slides*

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