

# Equitable AI Alliance



## Framing the questions

Will AI Enable or Leave Learners with Disabilities Behind?

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# Are we asking the right questions?

- For every complicated question, there is a simple answer

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## Are we asking the right questions?

- For every complicated question, there is a simple answer
- It is usually wrong

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Disabled people  
are not a single  
group

They represent  
diversity

That leads to  
diverse impacts



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AI is applied in a  
range of settings

These may be in  
parallel

These influence  
the impact of AI

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# Employment

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# Education

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# Daily Life

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Do we Know what we  
mean by AI?

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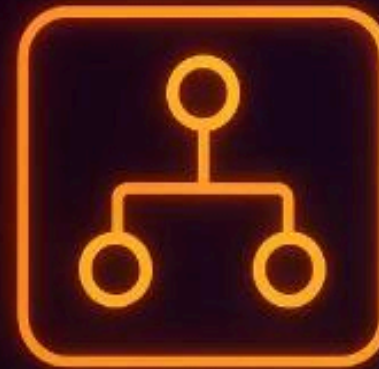


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## FOUR TYPES OF AI



**CAUSAL**



**PREDICTIVE**



**GENERATIVE**



**AGENTIC**

# How is AI being used?

Enhancing  
and  
expanding

Enhancing and expanding  
assistive technologies

Answering

Answering questions and  
augmenting creation

Deciding

Making decisions

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## Enabling Impact of AI

AI is reshaping assistive and inclusive consumer technologies.

Shift from specialised tools to adaptive mainstream systems.

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# From Specialised Tools to Adaptive Technologies

- Traditional technologies required users to adapt to the tool.
- AI enables tools to adapt to user needs.
- Mainstream devices now include rich accessibility features.

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# Mainstream Adoption

- Speech recognition, captioning, magnification, text review and clarification and environmental description.
- Real-time translation and adaptive interfaces embedded in consumer tech.

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# Emerging Risks and Challenges

- Risk of misrecognition and misrepresentation due to limited datasets.
- AI monitoring and screening tools may penalise atypical behaviours.
- Accessibility barriers persist in interfaces; rapid updates disrupt workflows.

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So what do  
we need to  
ask?

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How are different people with  
disabilities experiencing AI?

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What do we believe has been  
the impact?

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What contributed to the  
benefits?

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What contributed to  
discrimination?

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# Our question becomes

- Who is being excluded and discriminated against because of AI?
- How do we recognise this?
- What is making this happen?
- How do we address it?

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# Key factors

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Was the AI accessible to the user?

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Was a range of needs included in the Data, including those with disabilities?

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What was the chain of thought employed to think about that information?

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Did we recognise Bias in the data?

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How was that addressed?

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# Policy Evolution for Inclusive AI

- Accessibility and enabling technology now spans mainstream devices.
- Funding, procurement, and assessment models must evolve.
- Workforce needs support for ethical and accessible AI use.

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## Self-Determination and Equity

- Learners increasingly choose their own AI solutions.
- Access to devices, connectivity, and digital literacy is essential.
- Need policies addressing affordability and digital exclusion.

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# Rethinking AT Services

- Shift from impairment-based assessment to context and task-focused assessment.
- Continuous assessment reflects dynamic AI tools.

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# Future Guided by Human Values

- Independence, dignity, autonomy, transparency, co-creation.
- Outcomes depend on choices of governments, developers, educators, and disabled people.

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- The global Zero Project Network of more is uniquely positioned to provide insight on the intersection of disability inclusion, innovation, and artificial intelligence (AI).
- The Alliance aims to influence decision-making and discussions on AI developments poised to change our lives.
- The Alliance liaises with conference organisers and other channels to place experts at the heart of debates about opportunities and risks related to AI.

## Equitable AI Alliance

### Equitable AI Alliance



## Our Approach

- CONFERENCES: Reach out for inroads in mainstream AI-related conferences.
- EQUITABLE AI KNOWLEDGE HUB: Find the resources you need for disability-inclusive AI Innovation
- LINKEDIN GROUP: Join the discussion on 'Disability-Inclusive AI' with over 1000 members.

<http://bit.ly/3KIbk3P>

<http://bit.ly/42YXz77>



# Contact the Equitable AI Alliance



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