

Are students using AI to learn or relying on it?

BY PATRICK SSENTONGO

With AI tools such as ChatGPT becoming part of everyday life, students are exploring new ways to tackle school work. But does this technology genuinely help them learn, or is it making them too dependent? We asked students at Merryland High School, Entebbe to share their thoughts. Here's what they had to say:



Sharitah Bahati, S.2

It's useful with the new curriculum. Some activities are hard to figure out alone, but AI gives hints and guides on how to approach tasks, which is really helpful.



Sherlock Mbaguta, S.6 Arts

AI is making us overdependent. Even when we should think things through ourselves, we rely on it for the easy way out. It makes us lazy and limits our ability to think beyond our own capacity.



Samuel Joel Kateregga, S.6 Sciences

AI has been helpful in helping students complete tasks. However, it's making some students reluctant to do things independently.



Princess Isabella, S.2

AI makes students too dependent. Instead of using their brains fully, they run to AI for answers, which limits critical thinking.



Prize Heroine Babirye, S.1

AI helps a lot because we don't have to constantly bother teachers for explanations. If schools allowed phones in class, it would even be better. AI explains things in a simple way, making learning easier.



Jonathan Kawalya Yekka, S.6 Sciences

It's a double-edged sword. When used carefully, AI can help you learn, but overuse narrows your thinking. Sometimes it explains things you don't fully understand and can even confuse you more.



Julian Johanna, S.2

AI encourages research. The new curriculum focuses on developing skills independently, and AI helps us grow those skills effectively.



John Achlech - S.6 Sciences

AI has helped me with YouTube automation. I don't show my face or voice, but AI does most of the work for me. I'm already earning from AI-generated content, so I fully support it—it simplifies everything.