To stay up to date on the project Exploring Children's Rights and AI, visit the project webpage:

www.childrensparliament.org.uk/our-work/exploring-childrens-rights-and-ai/

More about Children's Parliament

Our dream is that children grow up in a world of love, happiness and understanding. Our mission is to inspire greater awareness and understanding of the power of children's human rights and to support implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) across Scotland.

For more work about our story and the work we do:

www.childrensparliament.org.uk

Exploring Children's Rights and AI
Calls to Action

Between 2022 and 2024, Children's Parliament, the Scottish AI Alliance, and The Alan Turing Institute worked with children from four schools across Scotland to explore children's rights and AI. Across the project, the children told us what they think about AI, how it impacts their lives, and what needs to be done to ensure that children's human rights are upheld in the development and use of AI in Scotland.

The Calls to Action in this leaflet present the issues that are most important to the 100 children that have worked on this project, and the changes that they believe are necessary to protect their rights.

Children's Parliament | Scottish AI Alliance | The Alan Turing Institute

Fairness & Bias

1 Children have the right to be included, to have a say, and to be listened to. Adults need to ask children for their views when they are making decisions about designing or using AI. If it is only adults making AI systems, the AI systems won't understand children.

2 Lots of different people, including children, should be involved in the development of AI. To avoid bias, we need to take everybody's lives into account.

3 Adults must ensure that the use of AI does not have a negative impact on any children's rights, for example the right to appropriate and accurate information, or the right to protection from discrimination.

Safety and Security

4 There should be rules about how much and what data companies are allowed to gather about children. Companies should not collect or share data from children unless it's absolutely necessary.

5 Companies should not use children's data to train AI systems without children being asked.

6 Children feel AI can't always be trusted and isn't always safe – we need more child-friendly information about AI to help children make informed choices.

AI and Education

7 AI might not understand neurodivergent children and how they learn in different ways. Decision-makers must take this into account when deciding what AI systems can be used in schools. AI systems need to include and support all children and their rights.

8 Teachers can use AI systems to help make learning fun - children learn better when it's fun. Teachers should be supported to use AI appropriately in class.

9 AI should support, not replace, teachers. Teachers understand our feelings and we think this is really important.

Learning about AI

10 AI should be in the curriculum. AI will be in all our lives, so we need to learn and understand what it means before we grow up.

11 More children should know about AI so they can understand what's happening when they use it. This will help to make sure children's rights are respected. The more we learn about AI, the more we'll know how to keep ourselves safe.

12 Teachers should learn about AI and children's rights to support children's learning and help to keep them safe.