

THE 2026 SCHOOL AI READINESS CHECKLIST

25 Questions Every School Leader Should Ask

Assess Your School's Readiness for AI Education,
Responsible AI Use, Future Skills, Parent Expectations
& Admissions Differentiation



Created by



IBA EDU

Helping Schools Prepare Students for an AI-Powered Future

Parents Are Asking Different Questions Now.

Is Your School Ready to Answer Them?

A few years ago, parents choosing a school typically asked about academic results, curriculum, infrastructure, extracurricular activities, safety, and facilities.

Those questions still matter.

But a new generation of questions is emerging:

How is your school preparing my child for an AI-powered future?

Will students learn how to use AI responsibly?

What future skills will my child actually develop?

Can students create with technology instead of simply consuming it?

How is your school meaningfully different from others?

AI readiness is no longer only a technology conversation. It is becoming a conversation about educational relevance, student capability, parent confidence, responsible innovation, and school differentiation.

This 25-point assessment will help you understand where your school stands—and where your biggest opportunities may be.

How AI-Ready Is Your School?

This assessment evaluates your school across five critical dimensions of AI readiness:

- 01

Leadership & Vision
Does your school have a clear direction for AI and future-skills education?
- 02

Student AI Literacy & Future Skills
Are students learning to think, create, communicate, and use AI responsibly?
- 03

Responsible AI & Academic Integrity
Does your school have appropriate guidance around ethical use, verification, privacy, and originality?
- 04

Teacher & Implementation Readiness
Are educators prepared to guide students effectively in an AI-enabled learning environment?
- 05

Parent Confidence, School Brand & Admissions
Can your school clearly communicate its future-ready value to parents?

SCORING SYSTEM

For each question, select one answer:

- YES — 2 POINTS

Your school has this capability or practice in place.
- PARTIALLY — 1 POINT

Some progress has been made, but further development is needed.
- NOT YET — 0 POINTS

This area has not yet been addressed.

Maximum possible score: 50 POINTS

Leadership & Vision

Does your school have a clear strategy for preparing students for an AI-powered future?

1. AI & Future-Skills Vision

Does your school have a clearly defined vision for how AI literacy and future skills should contribute to student development?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

2. Leadership Awareness

Do school leaders understand both the educational opportunities and potential risks associated with generative AI?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

3. Strategic Ownership

Has someone within the school's leadership or academic team been assigned responsibility for exploring AI education and responsible implementation?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

4. Future-Skills Roadmap

Does your school have a plan for gradually introducing AI literacy, creative technology, critical thinking, and future-skills experiences?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

5. Evidence-Based Innovation

Does your school evaluate new technologies based on educational value and student outcomes rather than adopting tools simply because they are trending?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

DIMENSION 1 SCORE: ____ / 10

Future-ready schools do not need to adopt every new technology. They need a clear framework for deciding what genuinely benefits students.

Student AI Literacy & Future Skills

Are your students becoming thoughtful AI users—or simply passive consumers of technology?

6. Age-Appropriate AI Literacy

Do students have opportunities to understand what AI is, what it can do, and where its limitations exist?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

7. Critical Evaluation

Are students taught to question, evaluate, and verify AI-generated information rather than automatically accepting it as accurate?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

8. Creative AI Use

Do students use AI to develop original ideas, stories, visuals, presentations, videos, or other meaningful projects?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

9. Human Creativity & Independent Thinking

Are students encouraged to use their own judgment, imagination, and reasoning rather than depending on AI to do the thinking for them?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

10. Visible Student Outcomes

Can students demonstrate tangible evidence of their future-skills development through projects, presentations, showcases, or digital portfolios?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

DIMENSION 2 SCORE: ____ / 10

Don't showcase the AI tool. Showcase what the child can now do.

Responsible AI & Academic Integrity

Does your school have clear expectations for how AI should—and should not—be used?

11. Responsible AI Guidelines

Does your school have clear, age-appropriate guidance explaining acceptable and unacceptable AI use?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

12. Academic Integrity

Do students understand when AI assistance is permitted and when work must be completed independently?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

13. Verification & AI Errors

Are students taught that AI can generate inaccurate, misleading, biased, or fabricated information?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

14. Privacy & Personal Information

Are students guided not to share sensitive personal information, confidential data, or inappropriate content with AI platforms?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

15. Human Accountability

Do students understand that they remain responsible for the accuracy, originality, and appropriateness of work they submit—even when AI has assisted them?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

DIMENSION 3 SCORE: ____ / 10

The goal is not to produce students who depend on AI. The goal is to develop students who can use it intelligently, critically, creatively, and responsibly.

Teacher & Implementation Readiness

Are your educators prepared to guide students in an AI-enabled learning environment?

16. Teacher Awareness

Do teachers have a foundational understanding of generative AI and how students may already be using it?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

17. Professional Development

Have teachers received practical training on responsible AI use, prompt literacy, verification, and educational applications?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

18. Classroom Guidance

Can teachers confidently explain when AI use is appropriate, inappropriate, or requires disclosure?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

19. Practical Implementation

Can your school introduce AI learning through existing infrastructure without requiring unnecessary complexity or a complete curriculum redesign?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

20. Pilot & Scale Approach

Is your school willing to begin with a focused pilot, evaluate outcomes, collect feedback, and scale based on evidence?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

DIMENSION 4 SCORE: ____ / 10

You don't need to transform your entire school overnight. You need a meaningful place to begin.

Parent Confidence, School Brand & Admissions

Can your school clearly demonstrate how it is preparing students for the world they will actually enter?

21. Parent Communication

Can your school clearly explain its approach to AI education and responsible technology use to parents?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

22. Admissions Readiness

Can your admissions team confidently answer: "How is your school preparing my child for an AI-powered future?"

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

23. Visible Proof

Can prospective parents see tangible examples of students creating meaningful projects and developing future-ready capabilities?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

24. School Differentiation

Does your approach to future skills give parents another meaningful reason to remember and consider your school?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

25. Student-Led Storytelling

Does your school showcase authentic student projects, presentations, exhibitions, portfolios, or demonstrations as evidence of its learning culture?

☐ YES ☐ PARTIALLY ☐ NOT YET

DIMENSION 5 SCORE: ____ / 10

Parents don't choose schools based on technology alone. They choose based on what they believe the school can help their child become.

Your School AI Readiness Score

Leadership & Vision	_____ / 10
Student AI Literacy & Future Skills	_____ / 10
Responsible AI & Academic Integrity	_____ / 10
Teacher & Implementation Readiness	_____ / 10
Parent Confidence, Brand & Admissions	_____ / 10

TOTAL SCORE: ____ / 50

0–15 POINTS FOUNDATION STAGE Your school is at the beginning of its AI-readiness journey. The priority should be building leadership awareness, responsible-use principles, and a practical starting strategy.
16–25 POINTS EMERGING STAGE Your school has begun exploring AI and future skills, but implementation may be inconsistent. Focus on developing clearer frameworks, visible student outcomes, and educator readiness.
26–39 POINTS PROGRESSING STAGE Your school has several strong foundations in place. The next opportunity is to connect strategy, student capability, responsible AI, parent communication, and visible outcomes more consistently.
40–50 POINTS FUTURE-READY LEADER Your school demonstrates strong readiness across leadership, student learning, responsible AI, educator preparedness, and parent communication. Continue measuring outcomes and evolving.

From Assessment to Action

Your score matters less than what you do next.
Use this page to identify three priorities for the next 90 days.

PRIORITY 1

What should we improve?

Who should lead it?

What is the first action?

PRIORITY 2

What should we improve?

Who should lead it?

What is the first action?

PRIORITY 3

What should we improve?

Who should lead it?

What is the first action?

UNDERSTAND → PRIORITISE → PILOT → MEASURE → IMPROVE

Future readiness is not a one-time technology purchase. It is an ongoing commitment to helping students think, create, communicate, adapt, and use powerful technologies responsibly.

What Could AI Future Skills Look Like in Your School?

Children already use technology to watch, search, scroll, play, and consume.
The bigger educational opportunity is to help them become purposeful creators.

Students can learn to develop:

Digital storybooks • Creative visual content • AI-assisted videos • Presentations

Interactive digital experiences • Creative campaigns • Personal digital portfolios • Original capstone projects

FROM PASSIVE CONSUMERS → TO THOUGHTFUL CREATORS

The strongest AI learning experiences should not make the child disappear behind the tool. They should make the child's imagination, thinking, voice, and creativity more visible.

THE FIVE PILLARS OF AI FUTURE CREATORS

CREATE

Turn ideas into meaningful digital projects.

THINK

Question, evaluate, and make informed decisions.

COMMUNICATE

Express and present ideas effectively.

USE AI RESPONSIBLY

Understand verification, originality, privacy, and human judgment.

SHOWCASE

Build visible projects and portfolios.

Thank You

for taking the time to assess your school's AI readiness.

This checklist was designed to help school leaders reflect on where they stand today and identify meaningful next steps toward preparing students for an AI-powered future.

Whether your school is just beginning or already well on its way, the most important step is the next one.

The future belongs to schools that help students think, create, communicate, and use powerful technologies responsibly.

WHAT TO DO NEXT

1. Share this checklist with your leadership team
2. Discuss your scores and identify priority areas
3. Complete your 90-day action plan
4. Explore a pilot AI Future Creators program for your school

SCHEDULE A SCHOOL DISCUSSION

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