AI Use Classification: What's Allowed, What Needs Caution, and What's Prohibited?

THE ALLIANCE FOR CHILD PROTECTION IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

A quick reference guide to AI use in child protection in humanitarian action

This tool provides an overview of the classifications for AI use in child protection in humanitarian action. It helps practitioners and organisations quickly identify which activities are generally permitted, which require additional safeguards, and which are prohibited due to potential risks to children's safety, rights, and well-being.

RATING	MEANING
	**Do not use AI for this task. Safeguards cannot bring the risk down far enough.**
	Use only with the listed safeguards in place. Without them, treat the task as Red.
	Suitable if the conditions are met. Still check outputs before use.

#	Use case	Rating
-	Any task involving personal data about a specific child	Red.
1	Writing, editing, and advocacy	Green.
2	Research and information retrieval	Green
3	Translation of general content	Yellow.
4	Training materials	Yellow.
5	Programme design, data analysis, and M&E	Yellow.
6	Information tools for adult community members	Yellow.
7	Decisions about an individual child	Red.
8	AI talking directly with children	Red.
9	Agentic AI that answers questions	Same as the task
9	Agentic AI that researches for you	One level stricter than the task
9	Agentic AI that acts for you	Red.
10	General meeting recording, transcription, and summaries	Yellow, with conditions.
10	General meeting recording, transcription, and summaries	Red.
11	Clearly fictional or stylised illustrative content	Yellow, with conditions.
11	Depictions of real people or realistic portrayals of humanitarian crises	Red.

Part of the Guidelines for Responsible AI Use in Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.
Explore the full guidance.

Endnotes

1 Use of personal data in purpose-built or enterprise AI systems requires specific organisational authorisation and appropriate safeguards. Uses otherwise classified as Red remain prohibited.