

Guidance on the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in applications

At Cripplegate Foundation and Islington Giving we understand that generative AI tools (like ChatGPT or Claude) can be useful and help save time. We welcome the use of these tools to help you communicate your ideas clearly and accessibly.

However, for the strongest chances of success, your application must be driven by human creativity, passion, and actionable plans.

When applicants rely too heavily on AI to write their proposal, the results are often generic, overly polished and lacking in individuality. When multiple applications sound extremely similar, it becomes difficult for those assessing to see your unique spark, your understanding of the local landscape, or your connection with the project or the people you work with.

It is our commitment to be transparent as a funder with when and how we use AI in the process of grant making, and we would ask that you do the same when applying to us. Where you plan to use AI, to give your application the best chance of success, please keep these principles in mind:

- **Originality:** AI can structure a paragraph, but it cannot replace your lived and learned experience, vision or insights. Ensure every core concept originates from you.
- **Deliverable:** Make sure your application includes specific details, local knowledge, and clear steps that prove your project is realistic and deliverable. For example, if we ask for projects working with a broad age range, make sure your application doesn't say you work with that whole age group when it's clear that your project is only for 12-16 year olds.
- **Your Passion:** Our panel members aren't grading you on flawless writing; they are looking for your passion, commitment and confidence you can deliver on their criteria for this fund. Let your genuine voice and dedication shine through the text.

In summary, use AI to assist you if you wish, but please declare how it has been used, and do not let it dilute or obscure the very reasons you are applying; your ideas, your passion and your vision for Islington.

Last updated August, 2026