

Reimagining Counselling In The World Of AI

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REGIONAL INSTITUTE

South & Central Asia 2026

Let's Do a Vibe Check

What does “He’s cooked” mean in your child’s world?

1

He’s in big trouble or is done for

2

He’s a great chef

3

He’s finished cooking for the day



Let's Do a Vibe Check

What does “Aura” mean in your child’s world?

1

A beautiful light surrounding someone

2

Your coolness or charisma score

3

A fragrance

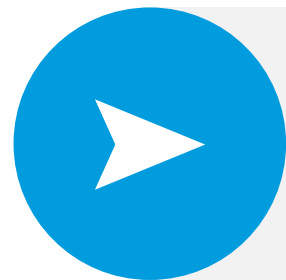


Let's Do a Vibe Check

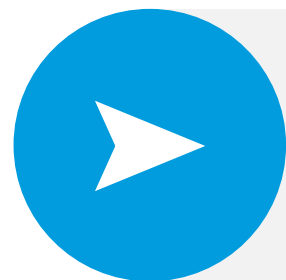
When your child has a problem, who do you think they turn to first?



Friends



Parents



AI



Let's Do a Vibe Check

Can you name one slang word you've heard your child use recently, even if you have no idea what it means.



Let's talk about our own AI habits.

Raise your hands if you have ever used AI...

1

for writing or refining emails?

2

to research universities, build college lists, or compare programmes?

3

to write or refine a student's Letter of Recommendation?

Let's talk about our own AI habits.

Which AI tool do you use most regularly in your work as a counsellor?



The Fact Of The Matter Is...

Technological and human skills are now growing together, not apart. More than 1 in 3 young workers worldwide are already in jobs with medium-to-high AI exposure, nearly 3 in 4 in East Asia, and 2 in 3 in North America and Europe.

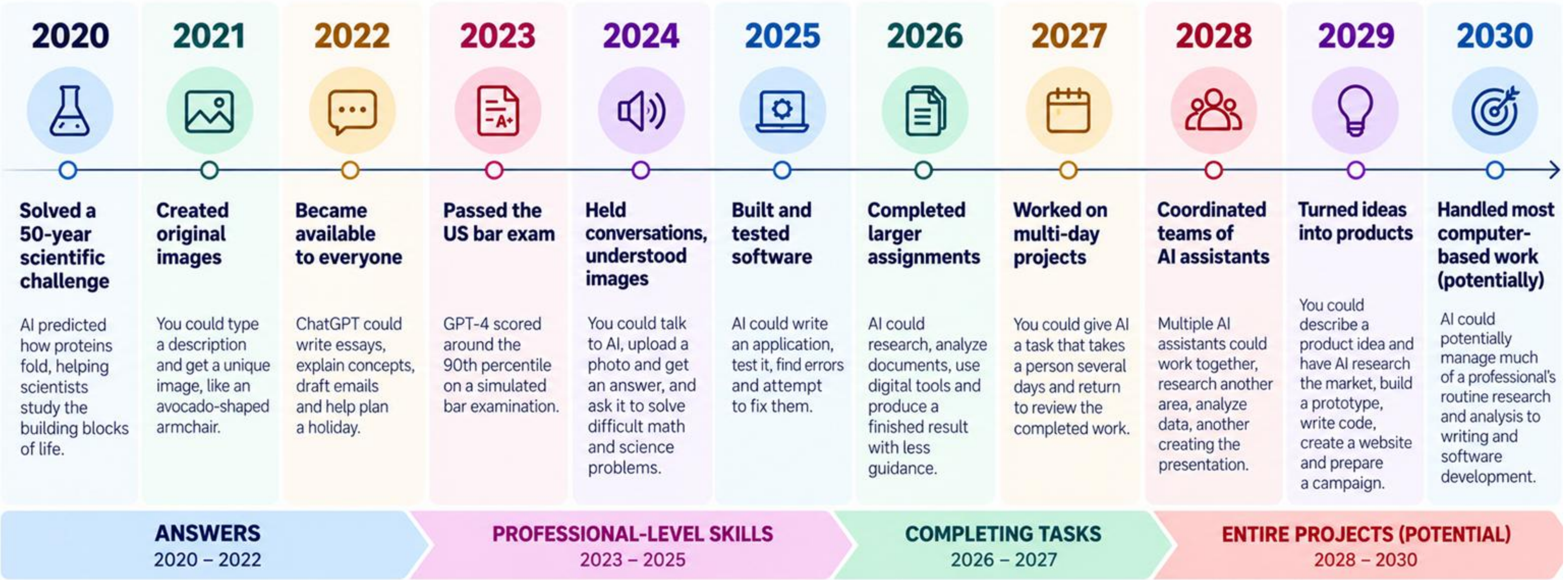
— World Economic Forum, Future of Jobs Report 2025 and Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Entry-Level Work (2026)

The FOUR Futures of Work

**Technology
doesn't dictate
the future.
Human
readiness does.**



How Has AI Evolved



The AI Family: Six Kinds



1. Predictive AI

Find patterns. Estimate what may happen.

Analyses existing data to identify trends, predict outcomes and flag potential risks or opportunities.



Use in career guidance: spot application trends, forecast program competitiveness or identify students who may need early support.



2. Generative AI

Create. Explain. Rewrite.

Generates or transforms text, ideas, images and other content in response to instructions.



Examples: ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini. Draft emails, brainstorm career options, simplify complex information or create student-friendly summaries.



3. Multimodal AI

Understand and work across formats.

Can process and generate combinations of text, images, audio and video, depending on the tool.



Use in career guidance: analyse a screenshot of admission requirements, summarise a video or discuss a document aloud.



4. AI-Powered Search

Research. Discover. Verify.

Searches the internet and synthesises information with source links, using advanced search and reasoning capabilities.



Examples: Perplexity, and research modes in AI assistants. Compare universities, eligibility criteria, costs and deadlines; always verify against official sources.



5. Document-Grounded AI

Work from your own sources.

Answers questions using documents or knowledge sources you upload or connect (e.g., PDFs, Drive, web pages), rather than only public information.



Examples: NotebookLM, Copilot (work/school). Query university brochures, counselling handbooks, policy documents and application guides.



6. AI Agents

Plan. Execute. Follow through.

Can understand goals, plan multi-step tasks and use connected tools to take actions, within defined permissions and limits.



Use in career guidance: compile research, organise application checklists, schedule follow-ups or prepare draft reports. Human oversight remains essential for important decisions.



The Changing World of a Counselor

2016 The Information Guide

No AI



- Collected and shared information about universities, courses and careers.
- Conducted interest and aptitude assessments.
- Managed applications, test registrations and deadlines.
- Organised university visits and information sessions.
- Spent significant time on administrative work and manual research.

2026 The AI-Enabled Counsellor

With AI



- Use AI to quickly research and compare courses, universities and career trends.
- Get summaries of long documents, policies and admission requirements.
- Analyse data (e.g. student interests, university trends).
- Create personalised resources, presentation slides and counselling materials.
- Save time on routine tasks and focus more on meaningful conversations with students and parents.

2030 The Strategic Human Guide

AI Everywhere

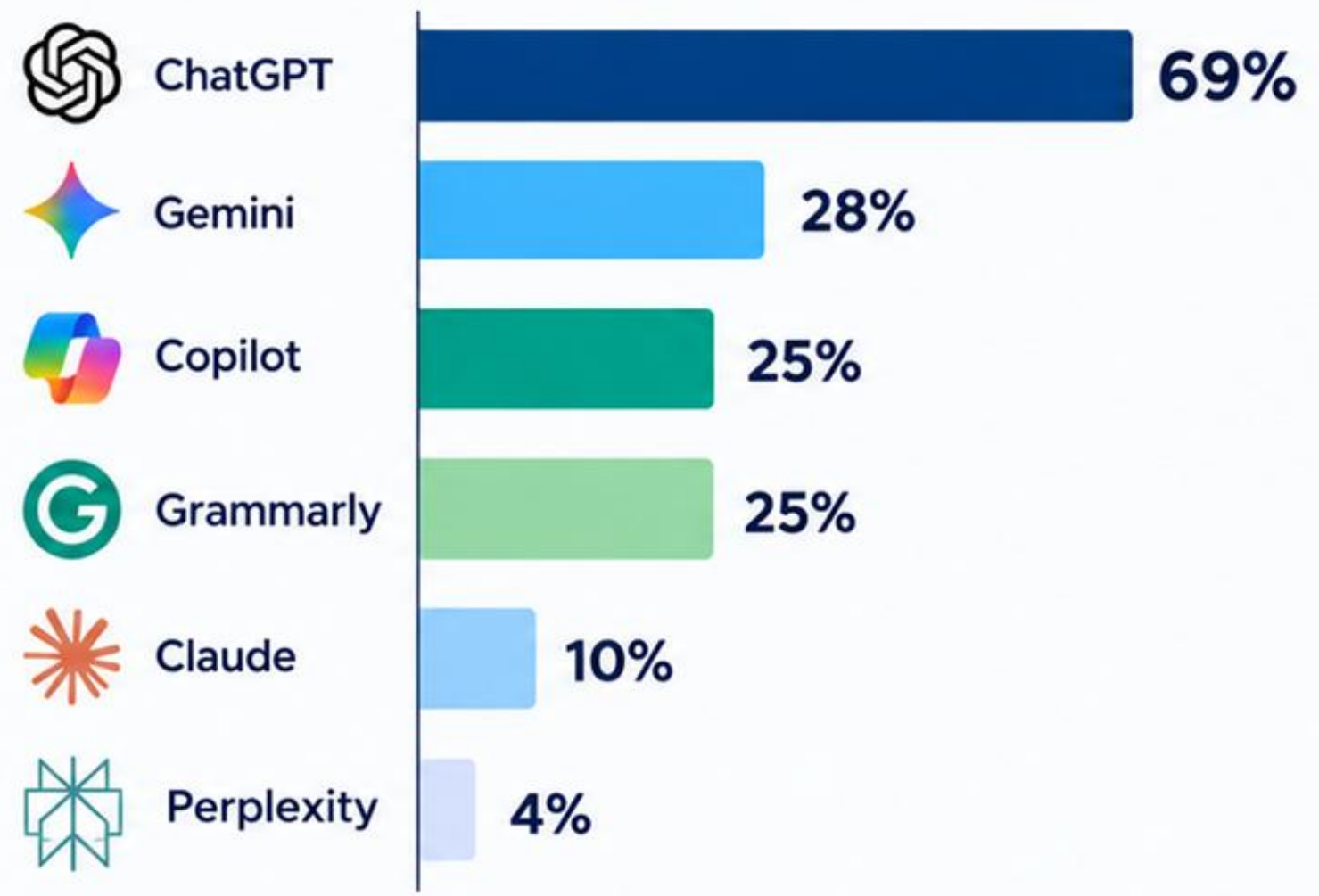


- Command a fleet of AI agents. They scan job markets, match internships and manage applications 24/7 while you steer the strategy.
- Simulate futures before students live them. Digital twins and VR trials show how each path could unfold over 10 years.
- Design living career maps. Skill-based pathways update in real time as industries shift.
- Predict and prevent. AI flags early signs of stress or disengagement, and you step in with human care.
- Be the human in the loop. Audit AI for bias, protect student data and coach judgment, resilience and reinvention.

Student AI Adoption & Literacy Gap

Top Platforms Used by Students

Share of students using each platform



38.5%

of students have abandoned traditional human tutors.



58%

report lacking adequate AI fluency and structured skills.



48%

feel unprepared for an AI-driven professional workplace.



86%

Global students regularly using AI tools



54%

Use AI Weekly or Daily



85.4%

Find ChatGPT more effective than tutors

The Changing Career Landscape

01 — JOBS RECONFIGURED

170M New Jobs Globally
170M new jobs expected globally by 2030
92M displaced → **+78M net**

WEF, Future of Jobs 2025

02 — AI & WORK TRANSFORMATION

1 in 4 Workers Exposed

1 in 4 workers are in occupations with some GenAI exposure, expected to be **transformed** rather than **eliminated**.

ILO, Generative AI & Jobs 2025

03 — SHORTER SKILL SHELF LIFE

39% Skills Evolving
39% of workers' core skills are expected to change by 2030.

Fastest-rising: AI & big data, cybersecurity, tech literacy.
WEF, Future of Jobs 2025

04 — HUMAN SKILLS MATTER

Analytical Thinking = #1 Core Skill

Human skills are NOT becoming irrelevant.

Also rising: creative thinking, resilience, flexibility, leadership & collaboration.

WEF, Future of Jobs 2025

05 — BEYOND THE DEGREE

~80% Prioritize Experience

Employers increasingly want **demonstrable skills**, not credentials alone.
>40% expect to use university degrees.

WEF data, cited by OECD, 2026

06 — INTERDISCIPLINARY CAREERS

Intersecting Domains

Digital + human + domain expertise intersection:

- **AI + Bio:** Bioinformatics
- **Econ + CS:** Quant / FinTech
- **Law + Cyber:** Cyber Law

WEF, OECD

A COUNSELLOR'S ROLE IS TO ENCOURAGE THE STUDENT TO BUILD:

DEEP expertise + BROAD exposure + TRANSFERABLE skills + EVIDENCE of application.

A Spectrum of Perspectives: Academic Leaders on AI

"Ultimately, we want students to use AI not as a substitute for deep thought, but as a way to augment their knowledge and skills."

Jonathan Levin — President, Stanford University

"The real challenge isn't teaching students to use AI. It's preparing them to keep learning long after today's AI becomes obsolete... Our job is to prepare them for a lifetime of learning, adaptation, and contribution."

Prof. Ananya Mukherjee — Vice-Chancellor, Shiv Nadar University

"AI won't replace humans—but humans with AI will replace humans without AI."

Karim Lakhani — Professor & Co-Director of the Laboratory for Innovation Science, Harvard Business School

"We must teach our students how to think alongside AI, rather than let AI do the thinking for them. Curriculum changes must ensure that while technical proficiency in AI is built, ethical reasoning and human judgment remain uncompromised."

Prof. Yogesh Singh — Vice-Chancellor, University of Delhi (DU)

"I'm convinced that the opportunities and risks generative AI presents mean this is a watershed moment for education... We need to prepare our students for a workforce that is going to be fundamentally altered by these tools."

Dr. Sally Kornbluth — President, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)

AI initiatives & Institutional Actions by Universities

1 Teaching Assistants & Personalized Academic Support



SP Jain
School of Global
Management

AI-ELT: in-house AI tutor trained on curriculum for personalized support and interview coaching.



HARVARD
UNIVERSITY

CS50 Duck (GPT-4) helps students debug code, explain concepts 24/7.



Arizona State
University

AI-driven adaptive learning in maths courses improved student pass rates.



AMITY
UNIVERSITY

AI chatbots for 24/7 academic tutoring, doubt resolution and admin guidance.

2 Curriculum Redesign & Interdisciplinary AI Degrees



Queen Mary
University of London

3-tiered AI literacy model in Business Management (Year 1 to Year 3).



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM

"Year in AI" for non-CS students (e.g. Geography, Humanities).



aivancity
SCHOOL FOR
TECHNOLOGY, BUSINESS & SOCIETY
PARIS-CACHAN

AI Clinic: students work on real-world AI projects for businesses and non-profits.



Jindal Global
Law School

B.A. in AI & Law.



UPES
UNIVERSITY OF TOMORROW

BA/BBA in Disruptive Technologies Law.



BENNETT
UNIVERSITY
THE TIMES GROUP

PG Diploma in AI in Healthcare (with Max Healthcare).



BA in Journalism and Mass Communication with AI.

3 Industry Partnerships & Specialized AI Schools



Partnered with IBM India to integrate AI tools and certifications in MBA and BBA.



Embedded AI across programs, partnered with Masai School, 550+ students solve live industry problems.



Yardi School of AI; partnerships with R Systems, Wipro and Horiba India.



Wadhvani School of Data Science and AI; AI4Bharat; partnered with OpenAI, AICTE and Ministry of Education.



Centre for Machine Intelligence and Data Science (C-MInDS); BETiC medical technology network (15 startups).

4 Enterprise Tools & Campus-Wide Subscriptions



The California State
University

ChatGPT Edu across 23 campuses (460,000 students and staff).



Northeastern
University

Claude for Education for students and staff.



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE

Institution-wide Claude subscription.

5 AI in Evaluation, Grading & Operations



98% more accurate grading and 70% faster evaluation.



NORTHERN ARIZONA
UNIVERSITY

60% fewer class and exam scheduling conflicts.



76% faster expense processing (1,600 hours saved).

6 Research, Public Good & Sustainability



Stanford HAI: research on foundation models, ORBIS and DeepSolar.



AI@Ashoka and BharatSim (health and policy research).



ML for public health, polio-risk and air-quality forecasting.



20x higher AI performance with lower energy use (with Dell).



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AI in Career Guidance - By the Numbers



46%

Students are already using AI to explore colleges

Use rose from **26%** in 2025 to **46%** in 2026.

Source: Education Advisory Board (EAB), 2026 (n > 5,000 high school students, US).



54.5%

School counsellors see potential in AI advising

Consider a **year-round AI adviser** a good idea.

Source: Career Guidance Network (CGN), 2026 (n = 1,606 US high school counsellors).



3h → 45m

AI can reduce administrative work

Recommendation-letter preparation time reduced from **3 hours** to **45 minutes** using AI.

Source: NACAC, Journal of College Admission, Winter 2026 (practitioner case study).



60%

Counsellors are already integrating AI into routine work

6 in 10 counsellors use AI in their everyday practice.

Source: IC3 Institute & FLAME University, Annual Student Quest Report, 2024 (n = 356 counsellors, 42 countries).



The “T” Shaped Human

The 2030 T-Shaped Human

Deep in one field, fluent in many.

Breadth — Minor + Electives

The skills that travel across careers.

Depth — Major

Core expertise in one primary discipline.

69% Analytical Thinking

WEF's *Future of Jobs Report 2025* identifies analytical thinking as the **#1 core skill**, with 69% of employers considering it essential.

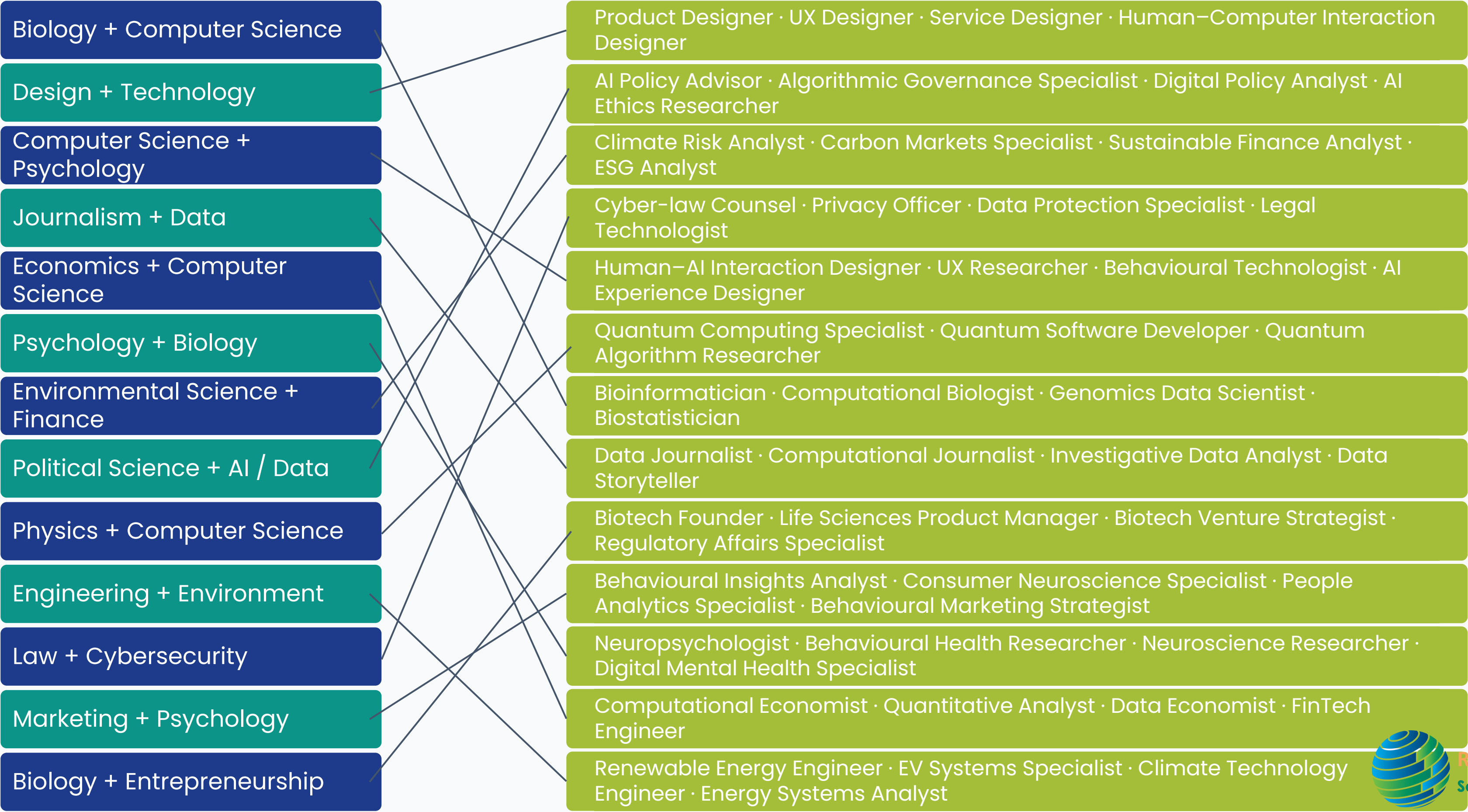
[World Economic Forum Report →](#)

39% Core Skills Evolving

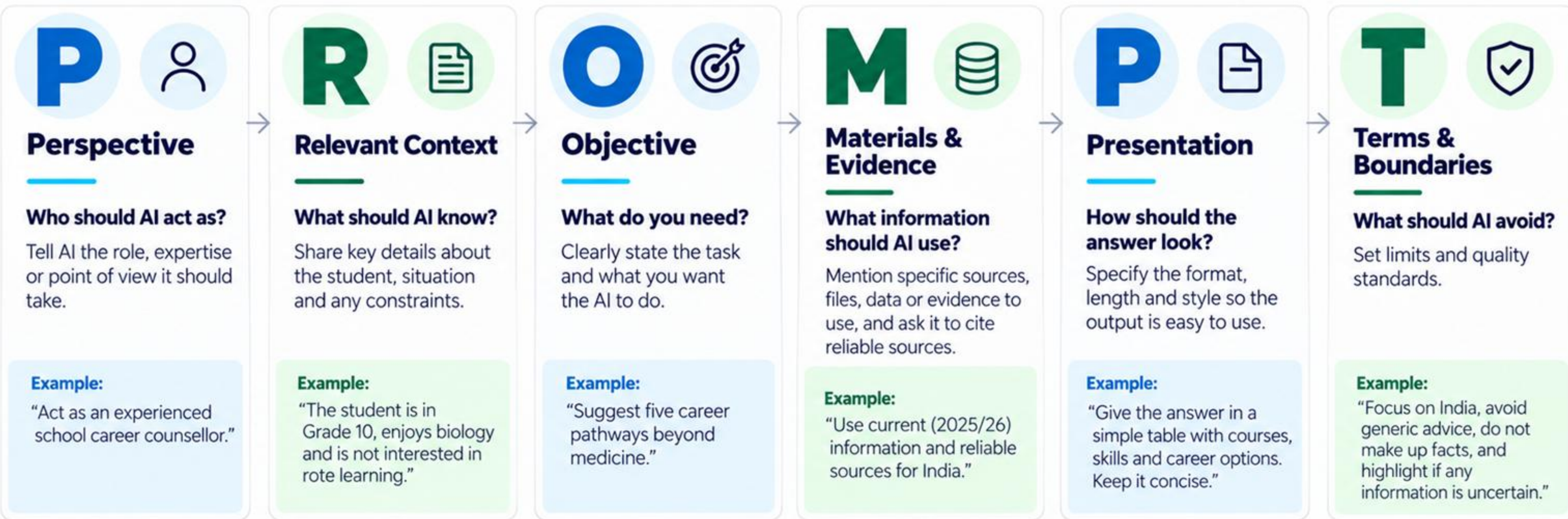
Employers expect **39% of workers' core skills to change by 2030**. Top rising priorities include AI, big data, technological literacy, creative thinking, resilience, and agility.



Interdisciplinary Subjects - To New Age Careers



How To Write The Most Effective Prompt On Any AI Platform



Weak Prompt (vague)

"Suggest careers for a student interested in biology."

This is too general. AI may give a broad, non-specific answer.

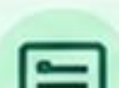
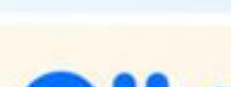
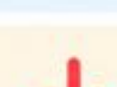


Stronger Prompt (using the 6 elements)

"Act as an experienced school career counsellor. A Grade 10 student enjoys biology, is curious about human behaviour and does not want to become a doctor. Suggest five alternative career pathways in India. For each option, include relevant undergraduate courses, key skills and possible career opportunities. Present the answer in a simple table and use reliable sources. Keep the response concise."



AI Platforms Library for Counselors

 Use case	 Recommended platform(s)
 Drafting emails, parent communication, workshop plans and guidance activities	 ChatGPT  Claude  Gemini
 Researching current university developments, admissions updates and emerging careers	 Perplexity
 Analysing university documents, admissions policies and research reports	 NotebookLM
 Finding and synthesising academic research	 Elicit
 Designing presentations, career maps, handbooks and parent handouts	 Canva  Gamma
 Proofreading and improving clarity in written communication	 Grammarly
 Creating education-specific worksheets and differentiated activities	 MagicSchool AI
 Turning authorised recordings into transcripts, summaries and action points	 Otter.ai  TurboScribe
 Managing personal tasks, deadlines and reminders	 Todoist  Google Tasks

AI Platforms Library for Students

 Use case	 Recommended platform(s)
 Exploring interests, discovering careers and investigating interdisciplinary pathways	 ChatGPT  Gemini
 Exploring Indian career options, occupational profiles and possible pathways	 My Career Advisor
 Researching universities, courses, admissions requirements and career trends	 Perplexity
 Analysing university brochures, course documents and admissions guides	 NotebookLM
 Studying from notes, generating quizzes and understanding difficult concepts	 ChatGPT Study Mode  NotebookLM
 Improving grammar, spelling and clarity in written work	 Grammarly
 Creating CVs, portfolios, presentations and visual projects	 Canva
 Exploring international college options and career profiles	 BigFuture (primarily US-focused)
 Transcribing permitted lecture recordings and creating searchable notes	 Otter.ai  TurboScribe
 Organising study schedules, deadlines and application tasks	 Todoist

Beyond AI: The Work Only You Can Truly Own

1. “I remember who you were in Grade 9.”

Students open up to someone who has watched them grow. AI can retrieve a chat log, but it was never there.

2. Behind every question is a quieter one.

“Which course has the best placements?” often means “Am I good enough?” AI answers the words on the screen. A counsellor hears what the student almost said.

3. “I believe in you” only matters from someone who could have said no.

Praise from a person with real standards carries weight. AI tends to agree with everything. A counsellor can say “I’m not convinced,” and the student stays.

4. You put your faith in the child and your name on their future.

A counsellor stakes their reputation on a student: the call, the letter, the plea for one more chance. AI has nothing to risk, and no one answers when it is wrong.

5. Some nights, a student needs a person, not a response.

When “career stress” is really hopelessness, a counsellor can notice, act, and check in the next morning. A chatbot cannot knock on a door.

6. “Not every student walks through the door.”

Confident students will get the most from AI. The quiet, first-generation, and less-connected may not know what to ask. A counsellor is the one who reaches them anyway.

Ethics of Using AI in Counselling

01



Protect the student's story.

No names, grades, or family details in public AI tools. A student's trust doesn't extend to a server you don't control.

02



Verify before you advise.

AI can state invented deadlines and rules with total confidence. Check every claim against an official source before a family acts on it.

03



Watch for bias.

AI can quietly limit what a student sees as possible. If a suggestion shrinks their options, ask why.

04



Be open about it.

Tell students and parents when and how AI is used. Transparency protects trust.

05

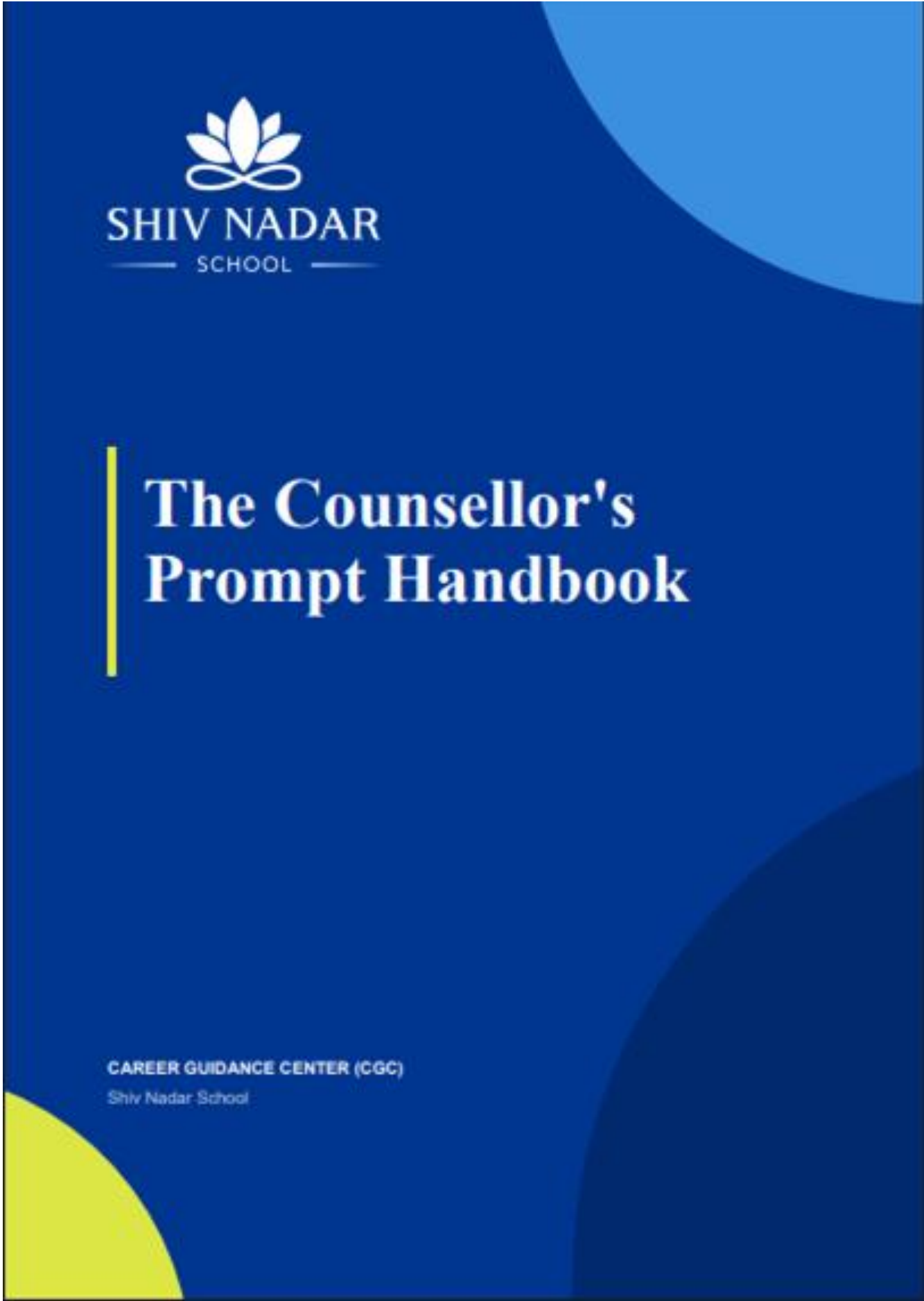


The human decides.

AI can draft, research, and suggest. Judgment, relationship, and responsibility stay with you.



AI Prompts Handbook For All Counselling Requirements



Kindly Scan To Access The Handbook



Let's Do Something Magical

Ananya is a curious, creative and academically capable student who has not yet settled on a career direction. She enjoys Biology but feels anxious about Mathematics. She wants to do meaningful work but has limited awareness of the range of careers available to her.



Scan to access Ananya's profile.

Your Mission

In groups of four, use AI to uncover 5 diverse career pathways that Ananya could explore beyond conventional medicine.

See How an Effective Prompt can do Wonders

Perspective: Act as an experienced school career counsellor specialising in interdisciplinary career pathways.

Relevant Context: Ananya is a Grade 10 student in India who enjoys Biology, drawing, understanding human behaviour and solving practical problems. Her parents favour medicine, but she wants to explore other possibilities. Use her full student profile provided above.

Objective: Identify five diverse and potentially alternate career pathways that combine her interests, including options beyond conventional medicine, biology and design.

Materials & Evidence: Use credible, current sources to identify relevant undergraduate courses, skills and career pathways in India and internationally. Cite reliable sources and distinguish verified information from possibilities.

Presentation: Present the five pathways in a concise table, explaining what each professional does, why it may interest Ananya, relevant study options and one practical exploration activity.

Terms & Boundaries: Do not assume interests equal aptitude or recommend a single “best” career. Avoid generic suggestions, unsupported claims and premature conclusions. End with three questions a counsellor should ask Ananya before narrowing her options.

Why Each Part Matters

01



PERSPECTIVE

Establishes the **professional lens** and **domain expertise** needed for the task.

02



RELEVANT CONTEXT

Grounds suggestions in Ananya’s **individual circumstances** rather than generic career advice.

03



OBJECTIVE

Defines a **specific deliverable** and explicitly pushes AI **beyond familiar career suggestions**.

04



MATERIALS & EVIDENCE

Encourages **evidence-backed research** and helps **distinguish factual course information** from exploratory suggestions.

05



PRESENTATION

Specifies a **consistent, comparable output** that counsellors can use directly in a student conversation.

06



TERMS & BOUNDARIES

Reduces premature conclusions, **protects student agency** and ensures the output supports counselling rather than replaces it.



Making the Complex Feel Manageable!

Through Gemini Notebook



Rashi Mehra | Grade 12 | CBSE

Rashi is a student who has always enjoyed Psychology. She is curious about why people behave the way they do, enjoys discussing social issues, and often finds herself analysing the characters in books and films.

Recently, she has started exploring undergraduate Psychology programmes. Ashoka University and FLAME University have caught her attention, but the more she researches, the more confused she becomes.

Her friends are comparing universities based on rankings and campus life. Her parents want to understand career prospects, and whether the investment is worthwhile. Online, every university seems to offer an exciting experience.

Finally, Rashi walks to her counsellor and says, "I think I want to study Psychology, but I don't know which university is right for me. I'm not even sure what I should be comparing beyond the course name."



Your challenge as a counsellor–

Help Rashi move from an overwhelming list of questions to an informed starting point, using Gemini Notebook to research official university sources.

Scan the QR code and get started!



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Thank You! :)

