Executive Summary: Governance of Artificial Intelligence - A Briefing for Educational Leaders

## **Introduction**:

This document summarizes the UK Government's response to the Science, Innovation, and Technology Committee's report on the governance of Artificial Intelligence (AI). The Government acknowledges AI's potential to transform public services and drive economic growth, while also recognizing the imperative to address associated risks, particularly within the educational sector. The Government intends to publish a consultation on proposed new AI-specific legislation to ensure public trust and confidence in the technology and foster innovation, and is committed to ensuring that the regulatory system can adapt to emerging risks.

### **Key Government Positions:**

**AI-Specific Legislation**: The Government agrees with the Committee that AI-specific legislation is needed, particularly to govern the most powerful AI systems. A consultation will be published soon to outline proposals for legally binding regulations on the companies developing these systems.

**Targeted Regulation**: The government favors a targeted approach to regulation and believes that existing regulators are well placed to address AI risks within the sectors they oversee. It will provide funding and support to equip regulators with expertise in AI.

**Pro-Innovation Stance**: The Government aims for a pro-innovation approach, with regulators addressing AI risks in their sectors, while fostering responsible development and adoption of AI.

**Public Sector Adoption**: The Government recognizes the potential of AI to improve public services. The Incubator for AI (i.AI) is developing pilot programs to drive the safe adoption of AI within public sector settings, including a range of tools for customer service, government chatbots, insight extraction from large consultation data, and legal data.

**AI Safety Institute (AISI):** The government will put the AISI on a statutory footing to strengthen its role and is testing models for safety, but due to commercial confidentiality, it can not disclose details of which models it has tested. It is also collaborating with the US AI Safety Institute and has some labs that have provided access to their models pre-deployment.

**Skills and Training**: The government recognizes the need for improved digital skills in the workforce, as well as more specific AI skills for particular jobs. There are plans in place to conduct a review into the future skill consequences of AI to ensure workers who are at risk of automation will be able to retrain and acquire new skills. It will further the provision of AI-related skills through the development of its industrial strategy.

**Algorithmic Transparency:** The Algorithmic Transparency Recording Standard (ATRS) is now mandatory for Government departments and will be extended to the broader public sector, promoting accountability in AI deployment.

**International Engagement:** The Government is actively engaging with international partners on AI governance, including the US and EU. The UK will continue to use international summits such as the AI Safety Summit to build consensus on the safe development and deployment of AI.

### **Implications for Educational Leaders:**

Educational leaders should be aware that this is a dynamic and quickly evolving landscape, requiring flexibility and adaptability. AI is coming into use within all sectors, including education, and the risks and opportunities must be understood and prepared for.

### **Action Points for Educational Leaders**

Based on the Government’s response, educational leaders should consider the following action points:

**AI Literacy Training**: Implement training programs to educate staff and students about the capabilities, risks, and ethical implications of AI. This should include a focus on understanding potential bias in AI and media literacy.

**Curriculum Integration**: Review and update curriculum to incorporate relevant AI concepts and digital skills. Prepare students for future careers where AI will be a key tool.

**Ethical Frameworks**: Develop ethical guidelines for the use of AI in educational settings, ensuring transparency and accountability, and incorporating the use of Algorithmic Transparency Recording Standard (ATRS) where appropriate.

**AI Tool Evaluation:** Critically evaluate any AI tools being considered for use within the educational sector for bias, privacy concerns, and effectiveness before implementing them.

**Professional Development**: Provide professional development for teachers and staff on using AI tools responsibly and effectively, including for administrative tasks and student learning.

**Privacy and Data Security**: Review and update policies regarding data privacy, security, and data protection principles to address AI implications, including the UK GDPR data protection principles.

**Policy Development:** Engage in the development of national AI policy for education via any consultations published by the government.

**Collaborative Networks**: Create a network for sharing best practices in AI integration within education, including national and local collaborations with other schools and further education establishments.

### **Suggested Timetable:**

Immediate (Within 1 Month):

Begin staff awareness campaigns on AI fundamentals.

Review current data protection and privacy policies.

Short-Term (Within 3 Months):

Initiate curriculum review for AI integration.

Develop a first draft of ethical guidelines for AI use.

Survey staff to identify AI training needs.

Mid-Term (Within 6 Months):

Implement staff training programs on AI and digital literacy, incorporating resources provided by the government.

Begin piloting AI tools in controlled classroom settings.

Engage in policy development consultation and consider the Algorithmic Transparency Recording Standard.

Long-Term (Within 12 Months):

Scale implementation of ethical frameworks and AI policies.

Participate in national and local collaborative networks.

Implement wider curriculum integration of AI and digital skills.

This executive summary and action plan are designed to help educational leaders proactively address the challenges and opportunities presented by AI. Continuous learning and adaptation will be critical as this technology develops.