

# Using AI for Open Badge applications

## 1.1 Using AI for Open Badge applications



### Notes:

Hello, I'm Rob Stewart, a Learning and Development Adviser from the Scottish Social Services Council. This short video explains how the Continuous Professional Learning Plus Open Badges work. If this is your first time applying for a CPL+ badge, I recommend you watch this video all the way through. It contains important information to help you succeed in your application.

Now, you might be wondering, "Didn't these badges used to be called 'the learning challenge'?" Well, you're absolutely right, and if you're looking for those, you're in the right place. We've simply given them a new name, but their purpose remains the same.

So, let's dive in and explore what these CPL+ Open Badges are all about, how you can earn them, and why they're valuable for your professional development.

## 1.2 AI and your Open Badge applications

### AI and your Open Badge applications

**Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbots and tools can be a valuable aid in learning.**

However, it's very important to use these tools responsibly and ethically. The following tutorial shows you how to use AI while maintaining the integrity of the evidence you submit for your badges.

**You must always:**

- Use AI responsibly and ethically.
- Declare any AI use in your badge applications.
- Be transparent about your use of AI.
- Follow our rules for acceptable use of AI.



### Notes:

The beauty of the CPL+ badges is that you can collect a brand-new badge every month. It's your opportunity to get Open Badge recognition for almost anything you're learning about in your professional life.

Unlike our other badges that focus on specific topics or resources, CPL+ gives you the freedom to choose. You pick a topic that interests you or relates to your work, go off and learn about it, and then explain how this learning will improve your practice. It's that simple.

No Open Badge is a mandatory part of your CPL requirements for registration with the SSSC. So, why should you consider earning these badges? Well, there are several benefits:

They provide recognition for your CPL activity that you can share anywhere. It's a great way to showcase your ongoing learning. They also demonstrate your commitment to continuous and lifelong learning, which is crucial in our ever-evolving field.

By participating, you'll develop your reflective learning skills, making you a better learner overall. This can really support your career progression and professional goals, giving you tangible evidence of your dedication to improvement.

And don't forget, you're building a portfolio of assessed reflective accounts, one step at a time. This can be invaluable for your professional development.

Remember, the choice of what to learn is yours. This flexibility allows you to tailor your learning to your specific needs and interests. So, why not give it a go? If you find it isn't for you, that's perfectly okay.

## 1.3 How to choose a topic

### Acceptable uses of AI



So long as you declare their use, the examples below show how AI chatbots like ChatGPT or Gemini can be used.

- Spelling and grammar checks.
- Rephrasing for clarity.
- Identifying gaps in evidence.
- Structuring responses.



### Notes:

Choosing a topic for your CPL+ badge is quite flexible. You can pick any topic you want, but it should be something that will help improve your practice as a social service worker.

When deciding on a topic, consider a few things:

Think about learning objectives you've planned for the year ahead. Maybe there's something you and your manager have discussed in supervision. Reflect on your strengths and weaknesses - is there an area you want to develop or a strength you want to build on?

Your latest SSSC MyLearning logs might give you some ideas. And don't forget to check recommendations from your latest Care Inspectorate inspection - there might be some valuable learning opportunities there and it can be very easy to explain how learning along those lines will make a real-world difference.

Remember, the goal is to choose something that's relevant and beneficial to

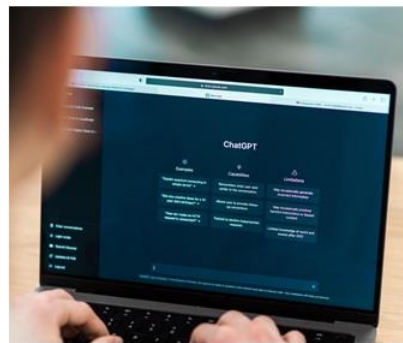
your professional growth. So take a moment to think about what would really make a difference in your practice and improve outcomes for the people who rely on you.

## 1.4 Unacceptable uses of AI

### Unacceptable uses of AI

While not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of what we consider to be unacceptable uses of AI.

- Generating fictional experiences.
- Fabricating reflections.
- Outsourcing large parts of your evidence.
- Passing off the AI's understanding as your own.
- AI doing the 'thinking' for you.



### Notes:

Now, let's talk about applying for the badge and submitting your evidence. You've got a couple of options here - you can either submit written evidence or provide a link to an audio or video recording. Whatever works best for you.

There are a few key things to remember when putting together your evidence:

First, make sure to put your registration number and the name of your employer right at the top of your evidence. We need this to confirm that you are eligible for the badge and your application will be returned to you without it.

Next, you'll need to carefully answer each of the five questions asked by the CPL+ badge criteria. Here's a tip that'll save you some hassle: use these questions as headings within your evidence submission. Our assessors look for these headings, and if they're not there, we might have to return your application. We want to be certain where each question is being answered.

Now, don't worry if this seems a bit daunting at first. I can assure you that after a few applications, you'll get into the swing of things. It becomes second nature pretty quickly.

One last thing to keep in mind: there's a minimum word count of 450 and a maximum of 900 words for these badges. This gives you plenty of room to demonstrate your learning without going overboard.

Remember, the goal here is to showcase your learning and how you're applying it to your practice. So, take your time to reflect on what you've learned before starting to write or record your application.

## 1.5 Declaring AI use

### Declaring AI use

**The assessor needs to be able to determine the extent of any AI assistance and be confident the reflections and experiences presented are genuinely yours.**

- Provide full transparency.
- Include direct link to chat log.
- Use the AI platform's sharing features.
- No screenshots or copy-pasted conversations.
- Copy of original work required if using Grammarly's AI features.



### Notes:

Now we come to the heart of your evidence: "Tell us about three things you learned and why each of these is important to you and the people who use your service."

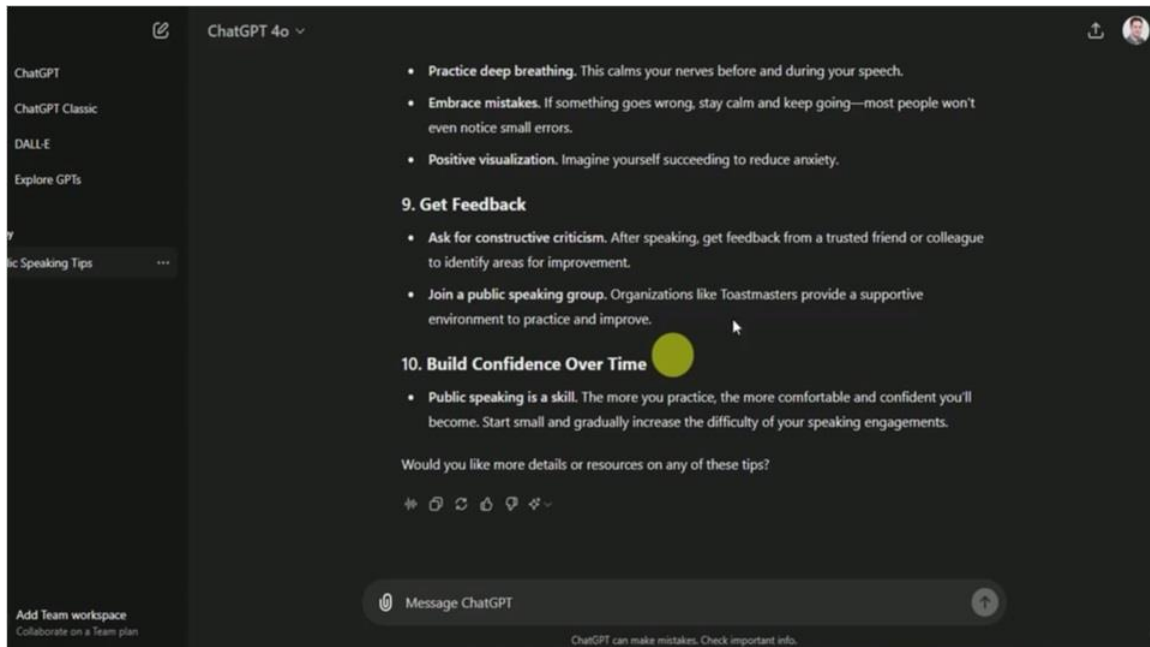
You've got more space here - between 150 and 300 words. This is where you really showcase your learning.

For each of your three points, be specific. Avoid vague statements. Explain how each is relevant to your professional practice, and how each is important to the individuals you support. Think about both immediate and long-term

impacts.

Remember, we're looking for quality reflection here. Don't just list facts you've memorised. Instead, show why this new knowledge is important. That's what makes for compelling evidence.

## 1.6 How to share from ChatGPT



### Notes:

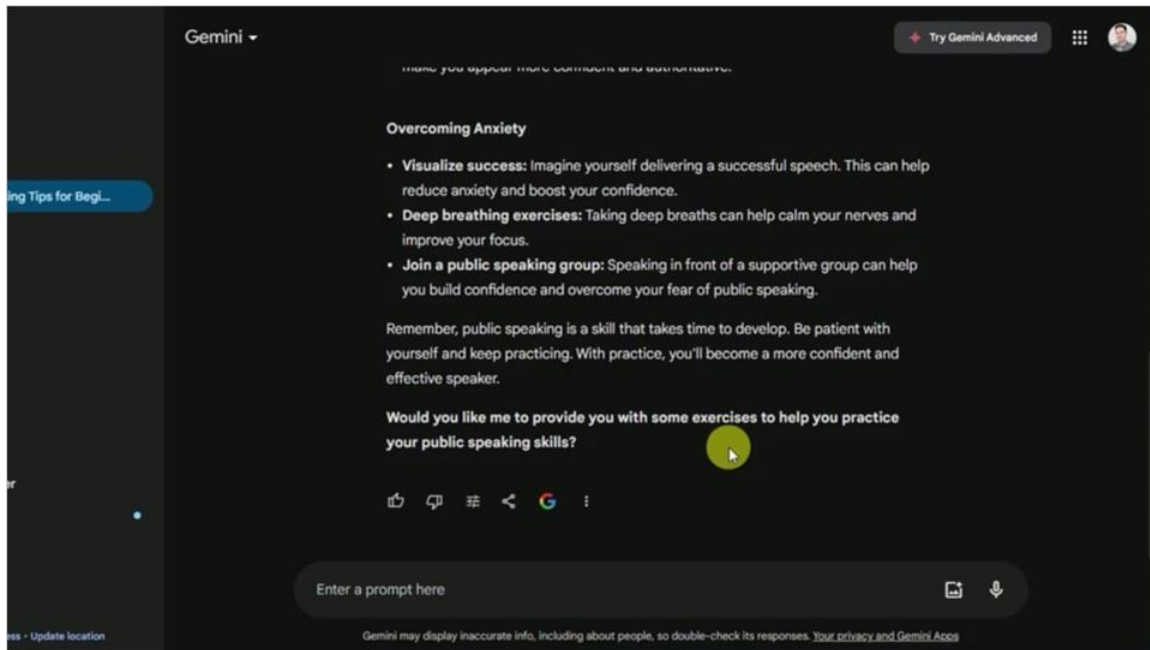
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## 1.7 How to share from Google Gemini



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## 1.8 Rules for AI use

### Rules for AI use

In addition to declaring your use of AI, you should follow the rules below to ensure that its use remains acceptable.

- Use AI as a tool, not a replacement.
- Critically evaluate AI suggestions.
- Maintain authenticity.
- Focus on personal growth.



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## 1.9 Implications of misuse

### Implications of misuse

**AI should never replace your own engagement with the learning materials or your personal reflections on your practice.**

- Violation of trust.
- Lack of genuine professional development.
- Misrepresentation of abilities.
- Likely revocation of badge.
- Possible complaint to SSSC Fitness to Practise department.



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## 1.10 Thank you



### Notes:

And there you have it! We've walked through everything you need to know about applying for CPL+ Open Badges. I want to thank you for taking the time to watch this video - I hope you've found it helpful.

Remember, these badges are a great way to showcase your ongoing learning and development. They're an opportunity to reflect on your practice and think about how you can apply new knowledge to improve the care and support you provide.

As you can see on the screen, we've provided contact details if you need any further information or support. Don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.

I wish you the very best of luck with your applications. Remember, every badge you earn is evidence of your commitment to professional growth. So go ahead, choose a topic that interests you, and start your CPL+ journey.