

FREE AI TOOLS FOR TEACHERS

AI FOR GOOD

All of the tools in this guide are free to try. To get started:

1. Sign up for a free Gemini account at gemini.google.com using your personal email address (not your school login unless you have permission). Review and update your privacy settings before you begin.
2. Once signed in, click the links in this document to open each custom teaching tool.
3. Try a few with simple prompts, then experiment with more detailed or creative ones — the more context you provide, the better Gemini can tailor its responses.

Remember: these tools are here to save you time, spark creativity, and expand possibilities, while you stay in the driver's seat as the teacher. See safety and ethical guidelines below.

Lesson Plan Generator

Turn hours of planning into a polished, curriculum-aligned plan in minutes. Save 1–2 hours per lesson. Simply enter your subject, year group, and topic, and it will generate a DRAFT lesson plan aligned to the NZ Curriculum that you can finalise, adapt or expand for your class. Tip: Want to make a change? Try asking the AI to make the change to get you closer to your final draft. [**TRY IT HERE**](#)

AI Teaching Mentor for Teachers

A safe, supportive guide that helps teachers understand AI, brainstorm use cases, learn best-practice prompting, and gain confidence using AI in their professional and classroom practice. Saves teachers hours of trial and error while giving them a safe “sandbox” to explore AI literacy and applications. Ask it anything about AI in teaching — from safe use to new ideas — and see how it can spark fresh approaches. [**TRY IT HERE**](#)

Marking & Feedback Assistant

Transform marking piles into personalised, constructive feedback in a fraction of the time. Save 30–40 minutes per assignment. Paste FULLY anonymised student work and explore how the tool suggests strengths, improvements, and extension questions you can build on. No Personal Identifying information! [**TRY IT HERE**](#)

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Differentiated Task Creator

Quickly create tiered tasks so every learner is stretched at their level. Save 45-60 minutes per activity. Give it a topic and year level and it will generate three tiered tasks — scaffolded, standard, and extension — to meet diverse learner needs. You can give it just a few words, a blurb, a lesson plan, or multiple lesson materials. E.g. supply your Year 8 Maths linear equations and ask for three versions from step-by-step to multistep word problems. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Quick Quiz Creator

Build accurate quizzes instantly instead of trawling textbooks or writing from scratch. Save 1 hour per quiz. Provide the subject and focus area and it will build a 10-question multiple-choice quiz with answers and explanations. Tip: Just tell it if you want to avoid specific parts of the chosen topic. E.g. Year 10 History, causes of WWI. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Parent Communication Drafts

Send professional, warm parent updates in minutes instead of labouring over wording. Save 30 minutes per communication. Share the key details of an event and it will draft a clear, professional, parent-friendly email in under 250 words. Tip: Not happy with the response, just say what you want changed then adapt until you're happy with it. E.g. Year 11 trip, Shakespeare play, \$25 cost, bring lunch or FYI Lockdown drill tomorrow. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Student Writing Prompt Generator

Inspire creative writing with age-appropriate, NZ-context prompts tailored on the fly. Save 10-20 minutes per lesson. Tell it the year group and theme and it will generate creative, age-appropriate NZ-context prompts to spark writing. E.g. Year 7, journeys" → prompts like writing from the perspective of a waka on its first voyage. [TRY IT HERE](#)

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Student Self-Assessment Checklist

Give students easy checklists that encourage independence and self-reflection. Save 30 minutes per checklist. Enter the subject and task type and it will design a simple, student-friendly checklist for self-review. Enter the subject and task type and it will produce a simple student checklist. E.g. Year 8 Science report. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Unit Plan Builder

Build multi-week units instantly instead of slogging through weeks of planning. Time saved: 4–6 hours per unit. Give the subject, year level, and topic and it will create a full multi-week unit outline. E.g. Year 10 English, film study” → four-week plan with objectives, activities, and assessments. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Rubric Generator

Quickly create consistent, student-friendly rubrics. Time saved: 1–2 hours per assessment. Describe the task and level and it will draft a rubric with four achievement bands. E.g. Year 9 Art project” → rubric with Emerging → Advanced descriptors for creativity, effort, and presentation. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Te Reo Māori Integration Helper

Seamlessly weave Te Reo Māori into everyday teaching without guesswork. Save 30 minutes per lesson. Pick a classroom context and it will suggest English–Te Reo Māori phrase pairs. E.g. Maths class” → phrases like ‘Please take out your books / Tangohia ā koutou pukapuka’. [TRY IT HERE](#)

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Resource Adaptation Assistant

Reuse and adapt materials across year levels without starting over. Save 1-2 hours per resource. Paste in a resource and it will simplify or enrich it for a different level. E.g. Adapting an NCEA Level 2 Chemistry worksheet → simplified version for Year 10 students.

[TRY IT HERE](#)

Weekly Planner with Differentiation

Map out a whole week's lessons and adaptations in minutes. Time saved: 2-3 hours per week. Enter your subject and focus and it will map out a five-day plan with varied tasks. E.g. Year 8 Social Studies, migration" → five lessons with objectives, activities, and adaptations.

[TRY IT HERE](#)

The Idea-to-Reality Coach

Show students how to take a wild idea and rapidly turn it into something concrete (prototype, plan, or creative artefact). Helps students see that AI removes barriers between imagination and execution. Type in a student's idea. Eg. A robot that cleans beaches" → suggestions for how to prototype, present, or model the idea'.

[TRY IT HERE](#)

Behaviour & Engagement Strategy Coach

Managing classroom behaviour and keeping students engaged can consume disproportionate teacher energy and planning time. Teachers often want new strategies tailored to their context. Save 1-2 hours of planning/thinking per situation. Describe a classroom challenge and it will suggest quick wins and longer-term strategies. E.g. Year 8 class, disengaged during group work" → strategies for roles, movement breaks, and culturally sustaining approaches.

[TRY IT HERE](#)

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Gamified Lesson Plan

Turn standard lessons into engaging challenges or quests. Time saved: 1 hour of creative planning. Provide the topic and it will reframe the lesson as a challenge or quest. E.g. Year 7 Geography, volcanoes" → a 'disaster response team' quest with roles and missions. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Future Scenarios & Ethical Debate Builder

Inspire higher-order thinking with real-world dilemmas. Time saved: 45–60 minutes per lesson prep. Enter a theme and it will create a short scenario plus debate prompts. E.g. AI in jobs" → scenario about automation in NZ workplaces with discussion questions. [TRY IT HERE](#)

The Problem Hacker

Train students to think differently by reframing challenges, exploring unconventional angles, and generating solutions beyond their usual reach. Helps shift mindset from "stuck" to "explorer," showing AI as a collaborator in critical and creative thinking. Give it a problem. E.g. Students won't contribute to group work" → suggestions for reframing roles, gamifying, or peer rewards. [TRY IT HERE](#)

The Future-Maker

Inspire students to imagine bold futures and their role in shaping them — turning abstract issues like climate change, AI, or space exploration into personal projects. Helps students connect schoolwork with global and future-facing possibilities. Enter an idea or a theme. NZ in 2050, renewable energy" → students imagine their town powered fully by solar and wind.

[TRY IT HERE](#)

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Worksheet Generator

Instantly create printable practice sheets. Time saved: 1–2 hours per worksheet. Provide subject, topic, and level and it will make a worksheet with questions and model answers. E.g. Year 9 Maths, “Pythagoras” → practice problems with worked solutions. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Assessment Commentary Generator

Speed up report writing by generating baseline comments to personalise. Time saved: 2–3 hours per reporting cycle. Input subject and skills to highlight and it will suggest report comments you can adapt. E.g. Year 7 Writing, “descriptive language” → three draft comments ranging from positive to needs-improvement. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Creative Classroom Icebreaker Designer

Fresh, fun starters that set a positive classroom vibe. Time saved: 20–30 minutes per activity. E.g. Year 9 PE” → quick games to build teamwork and energy. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Critical Thinking & Authenticity Checker

Teachers are worried about whether student work was AI-generated or simply copied. This flips it around: instead of detecting, it helps teach critical thinking. Teacher uploads a piece of student work (with personal identifiers removed). Saves 30 minutes per student. Paste FULLY anonymised student work and it will generate probing, respectful questions to test understanding. [TRY IT HERE](#)

Student Agency & Choice Builder

Students are more motivated when they have choice in how they learn and demonstrate understanding. But designing multiple pathways for a single objective is time-consuming for teachers. Save 1–2 hours per project or assignment design. Enter a learning goal and it will create structured, guided, and open inquiry pathways. E.g. Year 10 History, “Treaty of Waitangi” → students can choose to write an essay, create a podcast, or design an infographic. [TRY IT HERE](#)

GUARDRAILS

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⚠ USING AI SAFELY AND ETHICALLY IN THE CLASSROOM

THESE AI TOOLS ARE DESIGNED TO SUPPORT, NOT REPLACE, TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL JUDGEMENT.
ALWAYS:

- REVIEW AND ADAPT OUTPUTS BEFORE SHARING WITH STUDENTS.
- AI MAY MAKE MISTAKES OR OVERSIMPLIFY.AI HAS BIAS.
- STAY CURRICULUM-ALIGNED: DOUBLE-CHECK AGAINST NZ CURRICULUM ONLINE, NZQA, TKI, AND TRUSTED SOURCES (E.G. SCIENCE LEARNING HUB, TE AKA MĀORI DICTIONARY).
- PROTECT PRIVACY: NEVER INCLUDE STUDENTS' NAMES, PERSONAL DETAILS, SCHOOL INFORMATION OR OTHER SENSITIVE DATA WHEN INPUTTING WORK.
- USE RESPECTFULLY: AVOID OUTPUTS THAT COULD BE CULTURALLY INSENSITIVE, AGE-INAPPROPRIATE, OR DIMINISH STUDENT VOICE.
- TEACH CRITICAL THINKING: ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO QUESTION AND IMPROVE AI OUTPUTS, NOT JUST ACCEPT THEM.
- AI SHOULD BE AN ALLY FOR CREATIVITY, EFFICIENCY, AND INCLUSION, HELPING TEACHERS AND STUDENTS DO MORE, EXPLORE MORE, AND THINK MORE DEEPLY — ALWAYS WITHIN SAFE AND ETHICAL BOUNDARIES.
- SPOTTED AN ISSUE WITH ONE OF THESE TOOLS OR HAVE A USE CASE THAT NEEDS A NEW TOOL BUILT?
- DOES YOUR SCHOOL PREFER SOMETHING OTHER THAN GEMINI? THAT'S FINE, ALL OF THESE TOOLS CAN QUICKLY AND EASILY BE BUILT IN ANY OTHER MAJOR AI TOOL. ALL OF THESE ARE ALREADY AVAILABLE ON CHAT GPT.
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