

A Conversation Guide

A 45-minute gathering about the future of AI

For parents, caregivers, technologists, educators and neighbors. No technical background required.

Why gather?

AI is entering everyday decisions in classrooms, workplaces, services and homes. This guide helps a small group move from vague hope or fear to questions that decision-makers can actually answer.

This is a starting point, not a research study or an official consultation. Participation is voluntary; do not collect personal stories or children's information without consent.

Before people arrive

Choose a comfortable place with accessible seating. Invite two to six people with different perspectives. Explain that nobody must disclose private details or agree on a single view.

Bring paper or use the notes template on page 3. Download the related [Conscious AI Charter](#) if useful.

45-minute agenda

5 min | Welcome, purpose and ground rules.

10 min | What is the most hopeful use of AI in our lives?

10 min | Where should human judgment remain in charge?

10 min | What should companies prove before we trust their systems?

10 min | Choose one question or action to carry forward.

QUESTIONS TO EXPLORE

Three questions. Better follow-ups.

1. What is the most hopeful way AI could help your family or community?

Ask for a specific situation: learning a language, reducing paperwork, helping an older person stay connected, making services easier to use. Who benefits? Who might be left out?

2. Where should a human always retain the final decision?

Consider education, hiring, medical care, finances and decisions affecting children. What would effective human oversight look like, and how could someone appeal an outcome?

3. What must an AI company explain or prove to earn trust?

Think about testing, privacy, children, misleading claims, known limitations, safety incidents and responsibility for corrections. What evidence would change your view?

Ground rules

- Let people speak without interruption, and invite quieter voices without putting them on the spot.
- Disagree with an idea without making assumptions about the person offering it.
- Distinguish what you have observed from a prediction or feeling.
- Keep private stories private. Do not record or post without permission.
- If a question needs research, write down what would count as a reliable source.

Close with an actionable question

Examples: Who can explain the school's use of AI tools? How does a workplace audit AI recommendations? Where can affected people report problems? Choose an owner and a reasonable next step.

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Our discussion notes

Use notes only with participants' permission. Do not include children's names, medical information or other sensitive details.

One hopeful use of AI we discussed

One important decision that should remain accountable to people

One question we want an organization to answer

Next step: who will do what, and by when?

Want to continue?

You can explore the working charter and request initiative updates at omfund.vc/books/conscious-ai.html. Mothers Shaping AI is an emerging initiative, not yet a formal membership organization.

Prepared by Tiffany Joy Basse | October 2026