

Dokkodo<>Kaijo Hoko ASC – School Roadmap_v1

· @GT-Ichiro

Purpose and philosophy

The School teaches people to do difficult, useful work by pairing one human with one AI assistant, with the human always in charge. The VFP funding tool, built by Glenn and Claude in a fraction of the usual time, is the first worked example.

- **Dojo model.** A grassroots school in the old master-and-apprentice tradition: one teacher, one student, learning by doing real work side by side.
- **Human at every junction.** AI assistants cannot talk to each other in the chat apps, so a human Go-Between carries every order and report. This is a safety principle the School teaches on purpose.
- **Walking Alone.** Named after Musashi's Dokkodo. The School starts with one student. If the right person doesn't appear, Glenn keeps walking the path himself.
- **Hope as an outcome.** For people who have passed through VFP, a clear path with ranks and a teacher can mean more than the skills alone.

Who the School serves

The first students come from the VFP community: roughly 150 people, preteen to very elderly, who have lived in the 15 or so bedrooms across VFP's two houses.

- **Adults first.** Most AI assistants, including Claude's consumer app, require users to be 18 or older. The AI-assisted track starts with adults.
- **Youth pathway later.** Younger residents get a separate, supervised track with guardian consent, once safeguards are in place.
- **Current and new residents.** New tenants hear about the School at move-in. Former residents are reached by word of mouth, since records are incomplete.
- **Sensei and administrator.** An adult who can grow into teaching, or help run the School, may emerge from this same community.

How students enter

The invitation comes at move-in. When a bedroom opens, the administrator vets the incoming tenant, explains the house rules and monthly rent, and hands over a School information package.

The package holds three pieces:

1. **Welcome page.** One page, plain language: what the School is, why it exists, and that the foundation is free.

2. **Short application.** Interests, comfort with computers, and where the person would like to be in a year.
3. **Rank picture.** A simple view of the first step and where it leads.

The application states clearly that participation is voluntary and has no effect on housing. A youth version with a guardian consent form follows later.

Rank structure

Students move through four ranks, mirroring the AI ranks (Lt-Claud, Cap-Claud, Maj-Claud). These are draft names and contents, open to change.

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The first two ranks are free; Captain adds advanced classes; a Major becomes a Sensei who teaches the next student. Every handoff uses the standard note: from, to, task, attachments, what's needed back, saved as a dated file.

Cost model

The foundation is free; advanced classes carry a small fee, only to give them added value. Nothing to break the bank.

- **Free foundation.** Everyone can start, no cost.
- **Modest advanced fee.** Enough to signal commitment and give students a sense of ownership.
- **Work-trade option.** Mentoring a newer student or helping with School tasks in place of payment, so the fee never becomes a wall. This also grows future Sensei.
- **Certificates and ranks, not degrees.** In Washington, only accredited, state-authorized institutions can grant degrees (overseen by the Washington Student Achievement Council). The School awards ranks and certificates instead.

Safeguards

Safeguards protect students, VFP and the School, and funders will look for them.

- **Voluntary, separate from housing.** Saying no to the School never affects a tenant's room. This also keeps VFP clear of fair-housing concerns.
- **Age rules for AI tools.** Follow each AI provider's minimum age. No minor uses an adult AI account.
- **Child safeguarding.** Background checks for adults who teach, guardian consent for minors, and no unsupervised one-on-one contact with youth.
- **Human at every junction.** Every AI handoff passes through an accountable person and is kept as a dated file.
- **Privacy.** Applications and student records are stored securely and shared only with need.

Phased roadmap

The next step is Phase 0: build the groundwork and get the VFP administrator's approval. No dates are set yet; each phase opens when the one before passes its gate.

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Phase 2's first project could be a grant application or a crowdfunding campaign, worked by one student with one AI assistant and Glenn as the Go-Between.

Open questions

- Who is the first student: an adult former resident, a current resident, or a staff member who could become Sensei?
- What must a first student bring on day one: skill, character, curiosity?
- Does the VFP administrator approve the move-in invitation?
- What does the Foundation rank teach, and how is it earned?
- How much is the advanced fee, and what counts as work-trade?
- Which AI accounts does the School provide, and who pays for them?
- When does the youth pathway start, and who supervises it?