**Transparency Statement – Use of AI Assistance**

During the development of my *Solar System* Python program, I used ChatGPT (OpenAI) as a learning and support tool to help me understand programming concepts and to assist in writing and refining my code.

This use of AI aligns with Sheffield Hallam University’s AITS Level 2 (AI for Shaping), where AI supported learning, structure, and idea development but final work remained human-generated and critically reviewed.

Specifically, ChatGPT was used to:

* Explain Python programming principles at a beginner level, including object-oriented programming (OOP), classes, defensive programming, exceptions, and unit testing. This was done using the Socrates principle of providing explanations at my beginner level then presenting questions to ensure that I have understood each section before continuing to the next.
* Reviewing and test code structures. Suggestions were discussed and explained before adapted and commented on in my own words.
* Review of input validation and menu handling to make the code more robust.
* Guide me on how to separate the planet data into a JSON file and load it safely using Python’s json library. This was then implemented by writing the Planets.json file.
* Explain error handling and program logic when exceptions such as missing or invalid files occurred.
* Guide me on creating an automated test script test\_solar.py and test this within Visual Studio Code and GitHub CodeSpaces in order to successfully complete the unit test.

All code was tested, understood, and rewritten by me, ensuring I could explain and apply each part independently. No parts of the code were submitted without review or modification. All code where ChatGPT had assisted includes the statement:   
# DISCLAIMER: This code was assisted by ChatGPT.

The use of ChatGPT was limited to providing explanations, guidance, and example structures; it was not used to automatically generate a full solution. All design choices, final implementation, and testing were completed by me.