

# Complete Beginner's Setup Guide

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**For people with NO prior experience in Docker, Python, or networking**

This guide assumes you know nothing about technical setup. We'll walk through every single step with clear explanations.

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## FASTEST PATH (New!)

**Complete LOCAL setup in just 4 steps:**

1. **Install tools** (Part 1 below) - 15 minutes
2. **Download platform** (Part 2) - 2 minutes
3. **Run automated setup:** `automated_setup.bat` - 10 minutes
4. **Create Flowise API key** when prompted - 1 minute

**Total: ~30 minutes with almost no manual work!**

The automated setup creates admin, teachers, and students automatically with credits already allocated!

 **This sets up the platform on YOUR computer (localhost).** For school-wide access, see " **School Network Deployment**" section after setup.

**Manual setup** is also available if you want to learn each step.

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## What is this project?

This is a ChatProxy Platform that allows students and teachers to use AI chatbots. Think of it like installing a mini-server on your computer that runs several small programs (called "services") that work together.

 **IMPORTANT - Two Setup Phases:**

1. **Phase 1: Local Setup (This Guide)** - Install on YOUR computer first
  - Works on your computer only (localhost)
  - Perfect for testing and learning
  - Follow the steps below
2. **Phase 2: School Network Deployment** - Make it available to everyone
  - Requires IT department involvement
  - Needs domain name, SSL certificate, and network configuration
  - See " **School Network Deployment**" section after setup

**Recommendation:** Complete Phase 1 first, test everything works, THEN work with IT on Phase 2.

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## Time Required

## **Phase 1 - Local Setup (This Computer Only):**

- Setup time: About 30-45 minutes (or 15 minutes with automated setup)
- What you'll need:
  - A Windows computer
  - Internet connection
  - Administrator access to your computer

## **Phase 2 - School Network Deployment (Optional):**

- Coordination time: 1-3 days (waiting for IT department)
  - What you'll need:
    - IT department support
    - Domain name or static IP
    - SSL certificate
    - Network/firewall configuration
  - See " **School Network Deployment**" section below
- 

## **TWO SETUP OPTIONS**

Option A: Automated Setup (Recommended! ★★)

**After installing the basic tools (Docker, Python, Git) in Part 1, you can run:**

```
automated_setup.bat
```

**This does almost **EVERYTHING** automatically:**

- Checks your system
- Configures storage on the best drive
- Starts all services
- Prompts you to create a Flowise API key (only manual step!)
- Creates admin user + teachers + students automatically
- Allocates credits automatically
- Verifies everything works

**Time: 10-15 minutes** instead of 45 minutes!

**You only need to:** Follow Part 1 (install tools), then run the automated script!

Option B: Manual Setup (Step-by-Step)

Follow all the steps in this guide - good for learning how everything works.

**Choose Option A if:** You just want it to work quickly

**Choose Option B if:** You want to understand each step

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## **Part 1: Installing the Basic Tools**

Before we can run the ChatProxy Platform, we need to install 3 programs on your computer.

## Step 1: Install Docker Desktop

### What is Docker?

Docker is like a "container" system that packages programs with everything they need to run. Think of it as a virtual box that contains a complete mini-computer inside your computer.

### How to install:

#### 1. Download Docker Desktop:

- Go to: <https://www.docker.com/products/docker-desktop>
- Click the big blue "Download for Windows" button
- Wait for the download to finish (file is about 500MB)

#### 2. Install Docker:

- Find the downloaded file (usually in your Downloads folder)
- File name: **Docker Desktop Installer.exe**
- Double-click to run it
- Click "Yes" when Windows asks "Do you want to allow this app to make changes?"
- Click "OK" to start installation
- **Wait 5-10 minutes** - this is normal!
- Click "Close and restart" when done

#### 3. Start Docker:

- After your computer restarts, Docker Desktop should open automatically
- If not, look for "Docker Desktop" icon on your desktop or Start Menu
- **First time opening Docker takes 2-3 minutes** - be patient!
- You'll see a whale icon  in your taskbar (bottom-right corner) when it's ready
- The whale icon should be steady (not animating) when Docker is ready

#### 4. Accept the agreement:

- Docker will show you a service agreement
- Check the box "I accept the terms"
- Click "Accept"

#### 5. Skip the survey (optional):

- Docker might ask you questions about how you'll use it
- You can click "Skip" - it's not required

### How to know Docker is working:

- Look at the bottom-right of your screen (taskbar)
- You should see a whale icon 
- When you hover over it, it should say "Docker Desktop is running"

## Step 2: Install Python

### What is Python?

Python is a programming language. Our setup scripts are written in Python, so we need it installed to run those scripts.

### How to install:

#### 1. Download Python:

- Go to: <https://www.python.org/downloads/>
- Click the big yellow button "Download Python 3.x.x"
- Wait for download (file is about 25MB)

#### 2. Install Python:

- Find the downloaded file: `python-3.x.x-amd64.exe`
- Double-click to run it
- **⚠️ IMPORTANT:** Check the box "Add Python to PATH" at the bottom
- Click "Install Now"
- Click "Yes" when Windows asks for permission
- Wait 2-3 minutes
- Click "Close" when done

### How to know Python is working:

- Press `Windows key + R` on your keyboard
  - Type: `cmd` and press Enter
  - A black window will open (this is called "Command Prompt")
  - Type: `python --version` and press Enter
  - You should see something like: `Python 3.12.1`
  - Type `exit` and press Enter to close the window
- 

## Step 3: Install Git

### What is Git?

Git is a tool for downloading code from the internet. We need it to download the ChatProxy Platform files.

### How to install:

#### 1. Download Git:

- Go to: <https://git-scm.com/download/win>
- The download should start automatically
- If not, click "Click here to download" link
- Wait for download (file is about 50MB)

#### 2. Install Git:

- Find the downloaded file: `Git-2.x.x-64-bit.exe`
- Double-click to run it

- Click "Yes" when Windows asks for permission
- Click "Next" for all screens (default settings are fine)
- **Just keep clicking "Next"** - no need to change anything
- Click "Install"
- Wait 1-2 minutes
- Click "Finish"

### **How to know Git is working:**

- Press **Windows key + R**
  - Type: **cmd** and press Enter
  - Type: **git --version** and press Enter
  - You should see something like: **git version 2.43.0**
  - Type **exit** and press Enter
- 

## ◆ Part 2: Download Platform & Choose Setup Method

Now you have two choices - automated or manual setup!

### Step 1: Download the Platform

#### 1. Open Command Prompt:

- Press **Windows key + R**
- Type: **cmd** and press Enter

#### 2. Navigate to Documents:

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Documents
```

#### 3. Download the platform:

```
git clone https://github.com/vocabbreaker/ChatProxyPlatform.git
```

Wait 1-2 minutes for download to complete.

#### 4. Enter the folder:

```
cd ChatProxyPlatform
```

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## Step 2A: AUTOMATED SETUP (RECOMMENDED ★)

**Simply run:**

```
automated_setup.bat
```

## What happens next:

1. **Script checks your system** (Docker, Python, Git) - takes 10 seconds
2. **Asks about drive configuration** (just press Enter to use defaults)
3. **Starts Flowise** - wait 2-3 minutes
4. **IMPORTANT:** Script will open your browser with instructions:
  - Go to <http://localhost:3002>
  - Create your admin account
  - Go to Settings → API Keys → Create New Key
  - Copy the key
  - Paste it in the Command Prompt when asked
5. **Script does everything else automatically:**
  - Starts all services
  - Creates admin user
  - Creates 3 teachers (5,000 credits each)
  - Creates 5 students (1,000 credits each)
  - Verifies everything works

**Total time: 10-15 minutes!**

## Default users created by automated setup:

- **Admin:** username=[admin](#), password=[admin@admin](#), credits=**10,000**
- **Teachers (3):** teacher1/teacher2/teacher3, password=[admin@admin](#), credits=**5,000 each**
- **Students (5):** student1-5, password=[admin@admin](#), credits=**1,000 each**

 **All users have the same default password:** [admin@admin](#) (change after first login!)

When you see "Setup completed successfully!", skip to **Part 4: Testing Everything Works**

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## Step 2B: MANUAL SETUP (For Learning)

If you want to understand each step, continue with Part 3 below.

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### Part 3: Manual Setup (Skip if you used automated\_setup.bat)

 **NOTE: If you ran `automated_setup.bat` successfully, SKIP THIS ENTIRE SECTION and go directly to Part 4!**

**Only follow this section if you want to set up everything manually step-by-step.**

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## Step 1: Create Configuration Files

**What we're doing:** Creating special files that tell each service how to work

Type:

```
setup_env_files.bat
```

#### What you'll see:

- Several lines showing "Created .env file"
- Takes about 5 seconds
- You should see "✓" (checkmarks) for 5 services

If you see errors: That's okay! Skip to the troubleshooting section at the end.

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### Step 2: Generate Secure Passwords

**What we're doing:** Creating random secure passwords for databases and security tokens

Type:

```
generate_secrets.bat
```

#### What you'll see:

- Long random strings of letters and numbers
- Each line shows a different password being generated
- Takes about 10 seconds
- Should see "✓ All 11 updates completed successfully!"

**What this does:** Creates super secure passwords automatically so you don't have to think of them yourself

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### Step 3: Start the Flowise Service

**What is Flowise?** It's the AI chatbot builder - the main part of the platform

Type these commands one by one:

```
cd flowise
start-with-postgres.bat
```

#### What you'll see:

- A lot of text scrolling - this is normal!
- You might see messages like "Pulling image" or "Creating container"
- **This takes 2-5 minutes the first time** (downloading images from internet)
- Eventually it will say "Started" or show container names

**Wait 1 minute** for everything to fully start

## Step 4: Check if Flowise Started Successfully

Type:

```
docker ps
```

**What you'll see:** A table showing running containers. You should see at least 2 rows:

- One with "flowise" in the name
- One with "flowise-postgres" in the name

**Status column should say:** "Up" or "Up X seconds"

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## Step 5: Create Your Admin Account

1. **Open your web browser** (Chrome, Edge, Firefox, etc.)

2. **Go to:** <http://localhost:3002>

**What is localhost?** It's a special address that means "this computer" - you're accessing the server running on your own computer!

3. **Create admin account:**

- You should see a signup page
- **Fill in:**
  - Name: **admin** (or your name)
  - Email: **your-email@example.com** (use your real email)
  - Password: **Admin@2026** (or choose your own secure password)
- Click "Sign Up"

4. **You should now see the Flowise dashboard** - colorful interface with options to create chatflows

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## Step 6: Create an API Key

**What is an API key?** Think of it as a special password that lets different parts of the system talk to each other.

**Go back to Command Prompt and type:**

```
cd ..  
configure_flowise_api.bat
```

**What happens:**

1. Your browser will open showing instructions

2. Command Prompt will ask you to create an API key

### Follow these steps in the browser:

1. In Flowise (<http://localhost:3002>), click your profile icon (top-right corner)
2. Click "Settings"
3. Click "API Keys" tab
4. Click "Create New Key" button
5. Give it a name: **proxy-service**
6. Click "Create"
7. **Copy the long key** that appears (looks like: A27MFYLThKBwYcpDb2M9s6rwXIwUAly9P8j\_ujX\_J9I)

### Go back to Command Prompt:

1. Right-click in the Command Prompt window
2. Choose "Paste"
3. Press Enter

### What you'll see:

- "✓ API key validated successfully"
- "✓ Updated successfully"

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## Step 7: Start the Other Services

### What are these services?

- **Auth Service:** Handles user logins
- **Accounting Service:** Tracks credits (like tokens for using AI)
- **Proxy Service:** Connects everything together
- **Bridge:** The website interface students/teachers will use

Type these commands one by one (wait 30 seconds between each):

```
cd auth-service  
start.bat
```

*Wait 30 seconds*

```
cd ..\accounting-service  
start.bat
```

*Wait 30 seconds*

```
cd ..\flowise-proxy-service-py  
start-docker.bat
```

*Wait 30 seconds*

```
cd ..\bridge  
start.bat
```

**Each time you'll see:**

- Text scrolling
- "Creating network"
- "Creating container"
- "Started" or container name

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## Step 8: Create Users

**Now let's create teacher and student accounts**

**1. Navigate to the user management folder:**

```
cd ..\auth-service\quickCreateAdminPy
```

**2. Right-click on `manage_users_admin.bat` in File Explorer:**

- Open File Explorer
- Navigate to: `Documents\ChatProxyPlatform\auth-service\quickCreateAdminPy`
- Find `manage_users_admin.bat`
- Right-click it
- Choose "Run as administrator"
- Click "Yes" when Windows asks for permission

**3. Follow the prompts in the window that opens**

**Or use the CSV method to create multiple users at once:**

```
notepad users.csv
```

This opens a spreadsheet-like file. Edit it following this format:

```
action,username,email,password,role,fullName,credits  
create,teacher1,teacher1@school.com,Teacher1!,teacher,Teacher One,5000  
create,student1,student1@school.com,Student1!,student,Student One,1000
```

Save and close, then run:

```
sync_all_users.bat
```

## ❖ School Network Deployment (Important!)

**⚠ READ THIS if you're setting this up for a school (multiple users on different computers)**

### What You Have Now

Right now, the platform runs on **localhost** which means:

- It works perfectly on YOUR computer
- Other computers on the school network CANNOT access it
- It's not secure for internet access (no encryption)

### What You Need for School-Wide Access

To make this available to teachers and students on different computers, you need **3 things from your school's IT department:**

#### 1. ⚡ Static IP Address or Domain Name

##### What is this?

Instead of **localhost:3082**, you need a real address that other computers can find.

##### In simple terms:

- **Localhost** = "this computer" (only you can access)
- **Internal IP** = "computer #192.168.1.50" (others on school network can access)
- **Domain name** = "chatbot.yourschool.edu" (easy to remember, others can access)

##### What to ask IT for:

"We need either:

1. A static IP address on the school network for this server, OR
2. A subdomain like **chatbot.ourschool.edu** that points to this server"

##### Example addresses:

- Internal: **http://192.168.1.50:3082** (works on school WiFi/LAN only)
- Domain: **https://chatbot.yourschool.edu** (better - works anywhere)

#### 2. 🔒 SSL Certificate (HTTPS)

##### What is this?

SSL makes your website secure (the little lock icon  in the browser).

##### Why you need it:

- Encrypts passwords and data (so hackers can't see them)
- Required for modern browsers to work properly
- Shows students/teachers the site is safe
- Prevents "Not Secure" warnings

#### In simple terms:

- **HTTP** (no SSL) = Sending postcards (anyone can read them)
- **HTTPS** (with SSL) = Sending locked letters (only recipient can read)

#### What to ask IT for:

"We need an SSL certificate for the chatbot platform. Can you provide either:

1. A certificate from the school's certificate authority, OR
2. A Let's Encrypt free SSL certificate?"

#### What IT needs to know:

- Domain name (e.g., `chatbot.yourschool.edu`)
- Server where it's installed (the computer running Docker)

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### 3. Reverse Proxy (For External Access)

#### What is this?

A reverse proxy is like a "reception desk" that forwards visitors to the right place.

#### Why you need it:

- Allows external (internet) access to internal (school network) server
- Handles SSL/HTTPS encryption
- Protects your server from direct internet exposure
- Can add additional security (firewall, authentication)

#### In simple terms:

Think of your school network like an office building:

- **Without proxy:** Students must physically come to your computer room
- **With proxy:** Students can "call in" from home, and reception (proxy) transfers them to the right office

#### What to ask IT for:

"We need a reverse proxy (like nginx or Apache) to make the chatbot platform accessible from outside the school network. It should:

1. Forward traffic from `https://chatbot.ourschool.edu` to `http://localhost:3082`
2. Handle SSL termination
3. Be accessible from both school network AND internet (if remote access needed)"

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#### Network Setup Diagram



## Two Deployment Options

### Option A: School Network Only (Simpler)

**Best for:** Students/teachers only access from school WiFi/computers

#### What you need:

1.  Static IP address: **192.168.1.50**
2.  SSL certificate (optional but recommended)
3.  No reverse proxy needed (internal only)

**Students access via:** **http://192.168.1.50:3082** or **https://chatbot-internal.school.local**

#### Pros:

- Simpler to set up
- More secure (not exposed to internet)
- Lower IT requirements

#### Cons:

- Only works on school network
  - Can't access from home
- 

### Option B: Internet Access (More Complex)

**Best for:** Students/teachers need access from home

#### What you need:

1.  Domain name: **chatbot.yourschool.edu**
2.  SSL certificate (REQUIRED)
3.  Reverse proxy with port forwarding
4.  Firewall rules

**Students access via:** **https://chatbot.yourschool.edu**

**Pros:**

- Works from anywhere
- Professional setup
- Better user experience

**Cons:**

- Requires more IT involvement
- Security considerations (need firewall, monitoring)
- May need approval from school administration

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**What to Tell Your IT Department****Copy and send this to your IT team:**

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**Email Template for IT Department:**

Subject: Request for ChatProxy Platform Network Setup

Hello IT Team,

We are setting up a ChatProxy Platform (AI chatbot system) for educational use. The platform is currently running on Docker on [Computer Name/Location].

To make it accessible to students and teachers, we need:

**OPTION 1 - School Network Only:**

- Static IP address for the server
- Internal DNS record (optional): chatbot.ourschool.local → [IP address]
- SSL certificate (recommended but optional for internal use)

**OPTION 2 - Internet Access Required:**

- Public domain or subdomain: chatbot.yourschool.edu
- SSL certificate for the domain
- Reverse proxy (nginx/Apache) configuration
- Port forwarding: HTTPS (443) → Server:3082
- Firewall rules to allow external access

**Technical Details:**

- Platform runs on Docker (Windows)
- Service ports: 3082 (Bridge UI), 3000 (Auth), 3001 (Accounting), 3002 (Flowise)
- Only port 3082 needs to be accessible to end users
- All other ports should remain internal/backend only

**Security Requirements:**

- HTTPS/SSL required for production use
- User authentication already built-in (JWT tokens)
- Database access is internal only (MongoDB, PostgreSQL)

Please let me know which option is feasible and what information you need from me.

Thank you!

## After IT Setup - Update Configuration

Once IT provides the domain/IP and SSL, you need to update these files:

### 1. Bridge UI environment ([bridge/.env](#)):

```
# Change from:  
VITE_API_BASE_URL=http://localhost:3000  
  
# To your domain:  
VITE_API_BASE_URL=https://chatbot.yourschool.edu/api
```

### 2. Auth Service environment ([auth-service/.env](#)):

```
# Change from:  
CORS_ORIGIN=http://localhost:3082  
  
# To your domain:  
CORS_ORIGIN=https://chatbot.yourschool.edu
```

### 3. Accounting Service environment ([accounting-service/.env](#)):

```
# Change from:  
CORS_ORIGINS=http://localhost:3082,http://localhost:3000  
  
# To your domain:  
CORS_ORIGINS=https://chatbot.yourschool.edu
```

### 4. Restart all services:

```
cd bridge  
stop.bat  
start.bat  
  
cd ..\auth-service  
stop.bat  
start.bat  
  
cd ..\accounting-service
```

```
stop.bat  
start.bat
```

---

## Testing Network Access

### After IT sets everything up:

#### 1. Test from another computer on school network:

- Open browser
- Go to: <https://chatbot.yourschool.edu> (or the address IT gave you)
- You should see the login page
- Try logging in with: admin / admin@admin

#### 2. Test from home (if internet access enabled):

- Use your phone (disconnect from school WiFi)
- Go to the same address
- Should work the same way

#### 3. Check HTTPS:

- Look for lock icon  in browser address bar
  - Click it - should say "Connection is secure"
- 

## Security Checklist for Production

Before allowing students to use it:

- HTTPS/SSL is working (lock icon in browser)
  - Change default admin password from admin@admin
  - Change all default user passwords
  - Regular backups configured (see backup section below)
  - Only port 3082 is accessible from outside (other ports blocked)
  - Firewall rules in place
  - IT department has admin access for monitoring
  - Data storage on RAID or backed-up drive
- 

## ❖ Part 4: Testing Everything Works

Check if Services are Running

In Command Prompt, type:

```
docker ps
```

## You should see about 8-10 containers running:

- flowise
- flowise-postgres
- mongodb-auth
- mongodb-proxy
- postgres-accounting
- auth-service
- accounting-service
- flowise-proxy-service
- bridge
- mailhog (email testing)

## Status should say "Up" for all of them

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### Access the Platform

Open your web browser and try these addresses:

#### 1. Flowise (AI Builder):

- <http://localhost:3002>
- You should see the Flowise dashboard

#### 2. Bridge (Student/Teacher Interface):

- <http://localhost:3082>
- You should see a login page

#### 3. Try logging in to Bridge:

- Use the username/password you created in Step 8
  - You should see the main interface
- 

## Stopping Everything

When you're done and want to turn everything off:

### Option 1: Stop all at once

In Command Prompt, from the ChatProxyPlatform folder, type:

```
docker stop $(docker ps -q)
```

### Option 2: Stop each service individually

```
cd flowise  
stop.bat  
  
cd ..\auth-service  
stop.bat  
  
cd ..\accounting-service  
stop.bat  
  
cd ..\flowise-proxy-service-py  
docker compose down  
  
cd ..\bridge  
stop.bat
```

---

## ⌚ Starting Everything Again Later

When you restart your computer or want to use the platform again:

- 1. Make sure Docker Desktop is running** (look for whale icon 🐋 in taskbar)
- 2. Open Command Prompt and navigate to the folder:**

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Documents\ChatProxyPlatform
```

- 3. Start services in order:**

```
cd flowise  
start-with-postgres.bat
```

*Wait 30 seconds*

```
cd ..\auth-service  
start.bat
```

*Wait 30 seconds*

```
cd ..\accounting-service  
start.bat
```

*Wait 30 seconds*

```
cd ..\flowise-proxy-service-py  
start-docker.bat
```

*Wait 30 seconds*

```
cd ..\bridge  
start.bat
```

#### 4. Wait 1-2 minutes for everything to fully start

5. **Open browser:** <http://localhost:3082>

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## ⚡ Troubleshooting - When Things Don't Work

"automated\_setup.bat failed" or "Setup encountered errors"

**What this means:** The automated setup script hit a problem

**Solutions to try:**

1. **Check the error message carefully** - it usually tells you what's wrong:

- "Docker is not running" → Start Docker Desktop
- "Python is not installed" → Install Python (Part 1, Step 2)
- "Git not found" → Install Git (Part 1, Step 3)

2. **Run the diagnostic:**

```
check_system.bat
```

This creates a report showing what's wrong

3. **Try manual setup instead:** Follow Part 3 of this guide step-by-step

4. **Check Docker Desktop:**

- Open Docker Desktop application
  - Make sure the whale icon  is solid (not animated)
  - Try running `docker ps` in Command Prompt
- 

"Docker is not running"

**What you see:** Error message mentioning Docker

**Solution:**

1. Look at bottom-right of screen (taskbar)
  2. Do you see a whale icon  ?
  3. If not, find "Docker Desktop" in Start Menu and click it
  4. Wait 2-3 minutes for Docker to start
  5. Try the command again
- 

"Port 3002 is already in use"

**What this means:** Something else is using that port

**Solution:**

1. Restart your computer
  2. Start Docker Desktop
  3. Try the setup again
- 

"Cannot find the path specified"

**What this means:** You're in the wrong folder

**Solution:**

1. In Command Prompt, type:

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Documents\ChatProxyPlatform
```

2. Try the command again
- 

"Python is not recognized"

**What this means:** Python didn't install correctly

**Solution:**

1. Uninstall Python (Settings → Apps → Python → Uninstall)
  2. Download Python again from <https://www.python.org>
  3. **IMPORTANT:** Check "Add Python to PATH" during installation
  4. Install again
- 

Website not loading (localhost:3002 or localhost:3082)

**Solutions to try:**

1. **Wait longer:** Sometimes services take 2-3 minutes to fully start
  2. **Check if containers are running:**
-

```
docker ps
```

Should show "Up" status for containers

### 3. Check Docker Desktop:

- Open Docker Desktop application
- Click "Containers" on the left
- See if containers are running (green icon)

### 4. Restart services:

```
cd flowise  
stop.bat  
start-with-postgres.bat
```

---

"Access Denied" or "Permission Error"

#### Solution:

1. Close Command Prompt
  2. Right-click on "Command Prompt" in Start Menu
  3. Choose "Run as administrator"
  4. Click "Yes" when Windows asks
  5. Navigate back to the folder and try again
- 

## 📞 Getting Help

If you're still stuck after trying troubleshooting:

1. **Take a screenshot** of the error message
2. **Run the diagnostic script:**

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Documents\ChatProxyPlatform  
check_system.bat
```

This creates a report file that shows what's wrong

### 3. Check the logs:

```
cd flowise  
docker logs flowise
```

---

#### 4. Share the error messages with someone technical or the support team

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## What Each Folder Does

Now that everything is set up, here's what each part does:

- **flowise/** - The AI chatbot builder (like the "brain")
  - **auth-service/** - Handles login/logout (the "security guard")
  - **accounting-service/** - Tracks credits (the "accountant")
  - **flowise-proxy-service-py/** - Connects services together (the "messenger")
  - **bridge/** - The website students/teachers use (the "front door")
- 

## Learning More

### Want to understand what you just did?

- **Docker:** Think of it as running multiple mini-computers inside your computer
  - **Services:** Each mini-computer runs one part of the platform
  - **Ports (3002, 3082, etc.):** Like different doors to different rooms in a building
  - **localhost:** A special address meaning "this computer"
  - **API Key:** A secret password that lets services talk to each other
- 

## Success Checklist

You're done when:

- Docker Desktop is running (whale icon in taskbar)
  - All services show "Up" when you run `docker ps`
  - You can open `http://localhost:3002` (Flowise)
  - You can open `http://localhost:3082` (Bridge)
  - You can log in with a student or teacher account
  - You created users successfully
- 

## Quick Reference Commands

### Check if Docker is running:

```
docker ps
```

### Start everything:

```
cd %USERPROFILE%\Documents\ChatProxyPlatform  
cd flowise && start-with-postgres.bat  
cd ..\auth-service && start.bat
```

```
cd ..\accounting-service && start.bat  
cd ..\flowise-proxy-service-py && start-docker.bat  
cd ..\bridge && start.bat
```

### Stop everything:

```
docker stop $(docker ps -q)
```

### View what's running:

- Open Docker Desktop application
- Click "Containers" on the left

---

## 🔗 Next Steps After Local Setup

You're running on localhost - what now?

### If you just want to test/learn:

- You're done! Keep using <http://localhost:3082>

### If you need school-wide access (multiple computers):

- Read the " School Network Deployment" section above
- Send the email template to your IT department
- Wait for IT to provide domain/IP and SSL certificate
- Update configuration files as instructed
- Share the new URL with teachers and students

### If you need help:

- Check troubleshooting section
- Run [check\\_system.bat](#) for diagnostics
- Review logs using [logs.bat](#) in each service folder

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**Questions or stuck? Check the troubleshooting section above!**

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