

# Nurturing underprivileged students with Empathy: through Artificial Intelligence

## **Abstract**

*Currently, our education system uses a curriculum that has barely changed over the years and hardly takes into account the possibility that the content may be outdated. To create new curriculum would be a daunting task, but, with the help of Artificial Intelligence tools it can be simplified and personalized. This article seeks to examine the use of Artificial Intelligence to create a personalized system for students that will help them grow and learn faster. The article also explores the possibility of using artificial emotional intelligence in the field of education, particularly for public schools. It further seeks to understand how far is AI helpful in creating an inclusive space for learning. The use of Hyper-personalization teaching techniques through AI is a possible choice for developing an Inclusive Atmosphere. The structure of our present education system lacks elements of empathy and Innovation for the underprivileged students which hinders their productivity levels. Through personalized curriculum and generative AI, educational institutions can achieve optimal level of efficiency and meaningful growth.*

## **Introduction**

In a country with hundreds of languages and diverse cultural background, is it possible for everyone to communicate in one language? This raises a critical question: can one teaching style be effective for all students, can a one-size-fits-all method work in the field of education? No two humans have all the same characteristics, to expect thousands to learn through one teaching style is nothing but unreasonable. Every student learns differently due to a combination of genetic, neurological, emotional and environmental factors.<sup>1</sup> This would simply imply that every student has different cognitive intelligence. To foster an inclusive education system, it important to alter the method of teaching and the content so as to foster growth especially amongst the underprivileged students. Personalizing education can be considered as an evidence-based approach in educational practice.<sup>2</sup> This system could be continuously improved through revision<sup>3</sup> and regular feedback mechanism. Artificial Emotional Intelligence system could be employed in schools to infer the impact of their hardships accurately, therefore, allowing us to provide better solutions.

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<sup>1</sup> Alan Kuriakose, *Why Every Child Learns Differently — And How Parents Can Support That* (Helikx Open School, 6 November 2025) <https://www.helikxopenschool.org/post/why-every-child-learns-differently-and-how-parents-can-support-that> accessed 7 January 2026

<sup>2</sup> A Bhutoria, 'Personalized education and artificial intelligence in United States, China, and India: A systematic review using a Human-In-The-Loop model' (2023) *Computers and Education: Artificial Intelligence* <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666920X22000236> accessed 8 January 2026

<sup>3</sup> Ibid

## ***Conventional Method of Teaching***

Most public schools have a fixed curriculum, that is hardly changed in more than a couple of years, whereas, private schools enjoy limited operational freedom.<sup>4</sup> Such a framework suggests that altering the curriculum to cater to individual needs is extremely challenging, if not impossible. However, it is not only India that struggles with this problem of preparing good study material, a study conducted by the Grattan Institute suggested, more than 50% of teachers in Australia reported that they spend a great deal of time 're-inventing the wheel' when preparing lessons.<sup>5</sup> New curricula induce new teaching methods, thereby, fostering overall development of the child.<sup>6</sup> It can rightly be inferred that lecture-based teaching is not always an effective method of teaching and is not effective for a lot of subjects and topics. Faculty of most schools are immersed in completing their syllabus and preparing lectures, but usually fail to pay attention to each student individually, suggesting almost no student gets feedback and enough review to improve their academics. Such conventional methods of teaching, lack empathy and innovation, hinting towards a non-progressive system with less scope of personal development of the student.

This conventional method of teaching not only signifies a static education system but multiple at

1. *Lack of participation*

Students eventually feel less motivated to take part in class because of the same old ways of teaching. Rigid teaching methods can also contribute to their disinterest, as they struggle to find relevance in what they're learning.<sup>7</sup> A lack of engagement from the student side makes the class dull and boring.

2. *Absenteeism due to lack of interest.*

In situations when there are boring lectures or monotonous explanations by the teacher, students resort to solutions like absenteeism that in turn affects their academic performance.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> The RTE Act provides for a National Framework Curriculum to be formulated by National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT). At the State level, State Councils prescribe the curriculum. Therefore, private schools have very limited autonomy in that aspect.

<sup>5</sup> Jordana Hunter, Julie Sonnemann and Rebecca Joiner, *Making time for great teaching: How better government policy can help* (Grattan Institute Report No 2022-01, January 2022) 25 <https://grattan.edu.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Making-time-for-great-teaching-how-better-government-policy-can-help-Grattan-Report.pdf> accessed 8 January 2026

<sup>6</sup> UNESCO, *Changing Teaching Practices: Using Curriculum Differentiation to Respond to Students' Diversity* (UNESCO 2004) <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000136583> accessed 7 January 2026

<sup>7</sup> Kids USA Montessori, *Understanding the Causes of Lack of Motivation in Students* (Kids USA Montessori, 10 months ago) <https://kidsusamontessori.org/understanding-the-causes-of-lack-of-motivation-in-students/> accessed 8 January 2026

<sup>8</sup> Umme Marzia Haque, Enamul Kabir and Rasheda Khanam, *Investigating school absenteeism and refusal among Australian children and adolescents using Apriori association rule mining* (2024) *Scientific Reports* 14, Article 1907 <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-024-51230-4> accessed 8 January 2026

To summarize, the method of standardized test with a lack of personalization<sup>9</sup> makes students feel disinterested leading to the above stated problems. Traditional uniform approach can isolated underprivileged students, who may lack access to necessary academic support due to economic or geographical reasons.<sup>10</sup> Therefore, a right inference would be that there is a strong need to divert from the traditional and standardized approach to more of a personalized learning. Making the classroom less teaching orientated to more student centered will help in creating an inclusive environment and is likely to eliminate absenteeism, thereby, creating an engaging classroom.

### ***Personalized Learning***

The gaps in educational system hint towards the need for a personalized learning structure, where students receive the support from teachers and one-to-one feedback that helps them improve their overall grades. Personalized learning is an approach that tailor's education to individual students' needs, preferences, and abilities.<sup>11</sup> A tailored learning experience empowers students to learn at their own pace and also creates a structured inclusive system of education with scope for continuous improvement through AI powered tools. Artificial Intelligence tools such as Gen AI will help students grasp concepts faster through creative ways. One of the simplest ways in which it would benefit the students is through the study plans created by AI that will help students manage their time and focus on their weak academic points. Other tools include Virtual Chatbots that help in answering queries and solve sums for high school students. Such methods can help the teachers give a summary of a student's progress and help him with his studies. Overall, personalized education attempts to improve the diagnosis, prediction, and treatment of learning outcomes alongside the prevention of learning losses.<sup>12</sup> It defies the concept of a one-size-fits-all method with better results for the students and the teachers as both stakeholders, save time and efforts and yet progress over time. Personalized learning helps in holistic development and also reduces overall work load of teacher.

Personalized learning through AI is proven to be effective in many countries such as Uruguay. The case shows how AI can help speed up the creation of accessible digital textbooks while keeping inclusion at the heart of learning.<sup>13</sup> At the heart of personalized

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<sup>9</sup> Kids USA Montessori, *Understanding the Causes of Lack of Motivation in Students* (Kids USA Montessori, 10 months ago) <https://kidsusamontessori.org/understanding-the-causes-of-lack-of-motivation-in-students/> accessed 8 January 2026.

<sup>10</sup> Erasmus Nostrum, *AI Tools Democratizing Education for Less Privileged Students* (ErasmusNostrum.org, 20 July 2024) <https://erasmusnostrum.org/ai-tools-democratize-education/> accessed 7 January 2026

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.bgsvijaynatham.com/blog/personalized-learning-strategies--catering-to-diverse-learning-styles-and-needs> accessed 8 January 2026

<sup>12</sup> Ananya Bhutoria, *Personalized Education and Artificial Intelligence in the United States, China, and India: A Systematic Review Using a Human-in-the-Loop Model* (2022) *Computers and Education: Artificial Intelligence* 3, 100068 <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2666920X22000236> accessed 8 January 2026

<sup>13</sup> Sophia Torres Cantella, Marta Carnelli and Julie de Barbeyrac, 'Can AI help bridge the gap in inclusive education? Exploring AI-powered production of accessible digital textbooks in Uruguay' (UNICEF Innocenti, 30

learning is customization which is nearly impossible without Artificial Intelligence. Innovation is another important element for the holistic development of a student and with the help of AI, schools can create meaningful assessments and tasks which exhibit certain innovative skills. In this aspect, AI can be used to avoid some boring assessment and bring in some fun to everyday boring tasks. AI can offer detailed analysis of the result for teachers and students so as to understand strength and weaknesses of the child.

### ***Inclusive Environment***

Primary and Secondary school students often complain about how they feel in a class with other students of different cultural and social background. Often, they feel that they aren't heard or don't get enough chance to engage with the teachers and clear their doubts. These things may point out to a non-inclusive structure where students might feel left out and may not be able to focus on their studies. To create an Inclusive Environment, it's important to treat students with empathy. Empathy in teachers for students, create a safe space and makes them comfortable to share their feelings. Learning about your students and how they feel about each other is another part of having success with empathetic learning.<sup>14</sup> Students feel encouraged when they get the support of their peers and faculty. Artificial Intelligence can help students to understand their feelings through various questionnaires and surveys, which can let others know how they feel about them. Artificial Intelligence can understand the average state of mind of the class and create a comprehensive report for the teachers, who can plan their lectures accordingly. This will help the faculty, to optimize productivity through effective means without pressuring students.

Another way to use AI in schools is to create personalized test based on the learning capacity of each individual, this will prevent any unhealthy competition and further help in creating an inclusive education. AI can utilize predictive analytics to assess students' performance and have good reasoning in advance regarding problem areas.<sup>15</sup> Therefore, Artificial Intelligence if used wisely can be a boon to the educational field, in improving the performance of students and ensuring an upward sloping productivity curve. However, it's important to note, AI has its own drawbacks and flaws, and can be misused easily therefore, while AI is effective is used under supervision.

### ***Pros and Cons***

Conventional methods of learning may have a few drawbacks but it has its own benefits. Such a style of learning in early years of life, help refine the motor skills and develop basic understanding of the topic. Whereas, complete dependence of Artificial Intelligence is

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September 2025) <https://www.unicef.org/innocenti/can-ai-help-bridge-gap-inclusive-education> accessed 9 January 2026.

<sup>14</sup> Theresa Amoriello, 'Promoting Empathy in an Inclusive Special Education Classroom' (Medium, 6 July 2018) <https://medium.com/inspired-ideas-prek-12/promoting-empathy-in-an-inclusive-special-education-classroom-d185d0da8f8e> accessed 11 January 2026

<sup>15</sup> Claned, 'The Role of AI in Personalized Learning' (Claned, 12 April 2024) <https://claned.com/the-role-of-ai-in-personalized-learning/> accessed 11 January 2026.

likely to eradicate the concept of writing and hinder motor skills. Writing skills require more than just penning it down, it requires creative skills to organize ideas, basic vocabulary and planning. With the advent of AI, everything becomes digitized people are not required to correct grammar and vocabulary, AI does all the job. It may seem easier, but it prevents the person from critically analyzing and applying practical knowledge to their work. Such Work, also lacks authenticity, innovation and human touch, without these, it fails to connect to the reader. Other than writing work, Conventional methods of learning induce to analytically argue and apply real life experiences to various forms of content such as a blog or article. Whereas, such articles when lead by AI lacks any real-life experiences, which often make the work unrelatable and irrelevant in the long run. Articles generated by AI are often inaccurate, unreliable and might look robotic.

Therefore, it's important to balance between AI and old school methods of teaching as both have their pros and cons. Using AI with certain inherent restricts will help keep up the authenticity and credibility of the content. Keeping in mind that work which includes labor or requires tremendous time can be done using AI, such as creating assessments for students through personalization or helping the teachers to prepare for upcoming lectures. To summarize, AI can be a boon or ban both depending upon how we employ it and to what extent. While its benefits are hard to resist, its disadvantages cannot be ignored.

### ***Conclusion***

We have understood that Artificial Intelligence can create an Inclusive Environment through various analysis and learning styles that create comprehensive report about a student's overall development and help teachers understand what topics to focus more. Personalization of content in schools with the help of AI will create an inclusive environment and encourage innovation. Adaptive learning styles by AI will help students nurture with empathy and inculcate good morals. However, we know that all such tools have their advantages and disadvantages, striking a balance between the two extremes will help in attaining productive results. Conventional methods of learning is required to develop some of the most important skills of life such as writing, motor skills, etc. Therefore, schools should balance the way the study material is presented to students. Preventing the easy misuse of Artificial Intelligence is also one of the concerns that schools should take into consideration while deciding how to employ such technology. Too much reliance on AI can hinder the authenticity of assessments at school and tasks in work life. Hence, optimum usage of Artificial Intelligence with reasonable restricts will help strike the perfect balance between conventional methods of learning and AI.