



AI in Education

Impact report 2025–26



**AI in
Education**

AI-in-Education.co.uk

Executive summary

It has been a year of significant growth, consolidation and national influence for AI in Education.

Over the past 12 months, AiEd Certified has moved from early framework launch into national implementation. The framework is now established as a recognised roadmap for schools and colleges seeking to adopt AI safely, ethically and effectively.

This year we deepened our sector reach, expanded strategic partnerships, increased national visibility and supported a growing number of schools through certification.

Key highlights:

- **300+ schools/colleges** engaged with the framework across all phases and sectors
- **First schools successfully achieving certification**, including our first internationally certified school
- Strategic **national partnership launched with Twinkl**, creating an accessible training offer aligned to certification
- **Growth in partnerships** with MATs, dioceses, local authorities and sector organisations
- Publication of our **first State of the Nation in AI in Education report**
- Continued **contribution to national AI policy conversations** with DfE and DSIT
- **Expansion of regional practitioner hubs** across England and Scotland
- **Growing international engagement** across Asia
- AI in Education **continues to strengthen its position** as the trusted, school-led voice on AI implementation in education

Message from the Trustees

This has been a landmark year for AI in Education.

What began as a bold idea to support schools in navigating artificial intelligence is now becoming a recognised national movement.

During 2025-26, we have seen increasing urgency across education around AI adoption. Schools are asking not whether AI matters, but how to implement it responsibly and strategically. AI in Education has responded by providing practical leadership, trusted guidance and a coherent framework for action.

We are particularly proud of the progress of the AiEd Certified Framework. Schools across the UK and internationally are now using the framework to shape policy, practice, professional development and digital strategy.

We have strengthened our national profile, built important partnerships and continued to influence conversations across government, research and the wider education sector. This progress is only possible because of the commitment of our staff, volunteers, trustees, practitioners, school leaders and partners.

The year ahead presents challenges around sustainability and scale, but our mission remains clear: to ensure every learner can benefit from AI in ways that are ethical, safe, inclusive and impactful.

About AI in Education

Our mission

AI in Education exists to ensure schools and colleges can adopt artificial intelligence with confidence, integrity and educational purpose.

We are a trusted, sector-led organisation supporting education settings to integrate AI ethically, effectively and equitably.

We bring together educators, researchers, policy-makers, technologists and young people to shape the future of AI in education.

Why this matters now

Artificial intelligence is no longer emerging – it is already reshaping teaching, learning, assessment and the future world of work.

Schools are navigating profound change:

- Rapid growth in AI use by staff and pupils
- Increasing questions around ethics, safeguarding and bias
- Uncertainty around policy and regulation
- Rising demand for practical guidance and implementation support

The opportunity is significant – but so is the risk of inaction. AiEd exists to help schools move beyond experimentation towards strategic implementation.

Our impact at a glance: 2025–26



300+

Schools and colleges
engaged with the framework



12

Schools certified
(with more in progress)



5,500+

Educators reached (training,
conferences, workshops)



30+

Discovery calls with schools
and trusts



20+

Training events and
workshops



2,000+

Attendees across webinars
and conferences



40+

National speaking
engagements, panels and
podcasts



4

Regional hubs
established across the UK



Global

First international
certification in Malaysia



**AI in
Education**

Programme spotlight: AiEd Certified

From interest to implementation

The AiEd Certified Framework remains the core of our work. The framework provides schools and colleges with a practical and research-informed roadmap for AI adoption through five pillars:

- AI Literacy
- Policies & Ethics
- Tools & Systems
- Digital Pedagogy
- Collaboration & Community

Across three certification levels:

- **Explorer** – Recognition of commitment and early implementation
- **Practitioner** – Embedding AI strategically across the organisation
- **Innovator** – Sector leadership and contribution to the wider field

During 2025–26 we expanded support around the framework through:

- Digital workbooks
- Evidence workshops
- Discovery calls
- Mentoring
- Spotlight recognition awards
- Aligned training through Twinkl PD

Partnerships and influence

This year AiEd strengthened partnerships across education, technology and research. Highlights include:

- Formal national partnership with Twinkl
- Partnership development with Academia (certification within digital transformation support)
- Collaboration with Oxford University Press
- Contribution to EEF/NFER research
- Participation in DfE/DSIT AI stakeholder groups
- Partnership with PA Consulting in AI tutoring innovation work
- Involvement with Oxford University AI in Education research
- Submission of evidence to the Education Select Committee

These partnerships continue to increase our reach and credibility nationally and internationally.

National and international reach

AiEd's profile has continued to grow throughout 2025–26. This year we:

- Presented nationally at BETT, HMC, GuildHE, SFCA and other major events
- Contributed to national AI policy and implementation discussions
- Engaged with international education delegations
- Supported implementation conversations with schools and organisations overseas
- Saw schools in Malaysia adopt the framework

AiEd is increasingly recognised as a practical, credible and school-led voice for AI implementation.

Progress against our strategic goals

During 2025–26 we made strong progress across our five strategic objectives:

- ✓ Deepen sector confidence, capability and ethical practice
- ✓ Expand and scale AiEd Certified
- ✓ Build a national evidence base for AI in education
- ✓ Influence policy and system-wide transformation
- ✓ Strengthen organisational sustainability and sector reach

Challenges and lessons learned

This year has also reinforced several challenges:

- Securing long-term sustainable income remains critical
- Capacity remains lean relative to demand
- Converting sector interest into enrolment remains slower than anticipated
- Schools continue to need practical implementation support, not just information

Key lessons:

- Schools value structured implementation frameworks
- Demand for trusted AI training continues to rise
- Partnerships significantly increase reach and impact
- The sector increasingly wants practical, school-led guidance rather than theoretical debate

Looking ahead – Priorities for 2026–27

Our priorities for the coming year are to:

- Grow the number of schools completing AiEd Certified
- Expand the Twinkl partnership and training offer
- Grow the Academia partnership and delivery offer
- Increase framework uptake through MAT and strategic partnerships
- Strengthen financial sustainability and organisational capacity
- Deepen the national evidence base for AI in education
- Continue influencing national policy and responsible implementation
- Expand international reach while maintaining a strong school-led focus

Thank you

Thank you to our trustees, partners, schools, colleges, educators, pupils, researchers, volunteers and supporters.

Your expertise, commitment and belief in our mission continue to make this work possible.