



Human Connection in the Age of AI

Directions and Opportunities

Why Human Connections?

Academic excellence has come with an unintended consequence

Korea's strong emphasis on academic achievement has often left relational intelligence, empathy, and socioemotional development at the margins.

AI makes this a global challenge

As AI takes on more cognitive and analytical tasks, uniquely human capacities to connect, collaborate, and relate to others become increasingly important.

Human connection is foundational

Insights from psychology, developmental cognitive neuroscience, and the learning sciences highlight human connection as a foundation for **learning, resilience, and flourishing**.

How can we measure, coach, and teach human connections?

1. Measuring Relational Intelligence for Student Growth

1

Rethink conventional approaches to measurement

Move beyond heavy reliance on subjective teacher observations and self-report surveys toward approaches that provide meaningful information students, parents, and teachers can trust.

2

Recognize multidimensional relational intelligence

Empathy, teamwork, resilience, and leadership represent different strengths that may be better understood as a multidimensional profile rather than a single score.

3

Focus on individual strengths and areas for growth

Identify each student's unique strengths and developmental needs instead of comparing students along a single high-to-low scale.

4

Shift toward formative assessment

Move from summative ranking toward formative assessment that informs coaching, guides teaching, and supports continuous development.

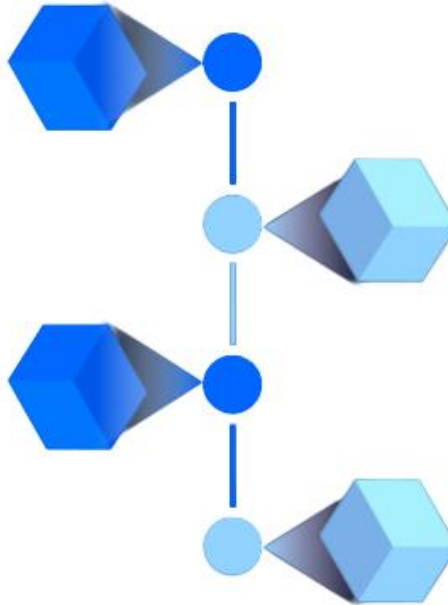
2. AI-powered Tools of Human Connections

AI-powered immersive simulations

Explore AI-powered virtual reality and immersive simulations that could create realistic social scenarios and provide new opportunities to assess human interaction.

Ambient AI for naturalistic observation

Explore how Ambient AI could capture interactions during collaborative learning, including communication, listening, inclusion, conflict resolution, and leadership.



Learning from standardized patients

Medical schools already use standardized patients to assess empathy, communication, trust, and human-centered care. AI may offer opportunities to extend this approach through more consistent assessment and diverse simulated interactions.

Meaningful information for coaching

Provide teachers with reliable and meaningful information about students' human connections that can become a valuable resource for coaching and teaching.

3. Empowering Teachers without Adding Burden

1

Curriculum-embedded assessment and coaching

Align AI-supported tools with existing curricula and daily classroom practice, embedding them directly into projects across subjects.

2

Capture interactions beyond teacher attention

Help teachers understand who listens, encourages others, is being excluded, resolves conflicts, and emerges as a leader during collaborative learning.

3

Professional development for effective coaching

Provide high-quality professional development that helps teachers interpret insights and use them to coach students more effectively.

4

AI as a professional partner

Use AI to help teachers understand their students more deeply and support every child's growth without creating additional responsibility.

4. Start with Pain Points, Not Technology

A Critical Pain Point: Students Giving Up on Mathematics

The Current Challenge

Loss of confidence in mathematics → *"Math is not for me"* → Disengagement → Giving up

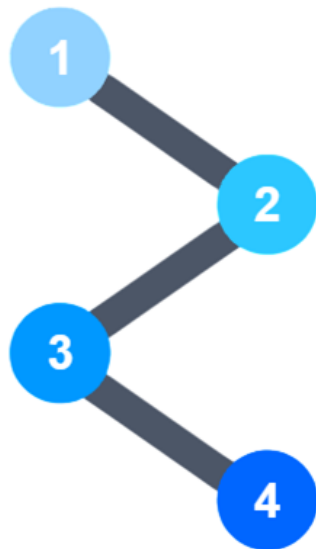
Imagine a Different Learning Experience

Authentic Mathematics PBL

Students collaboratively solve meaningful, real-world mathematical problems.

Timely Coaching

Students receive support to participate meaningfully and experience success through teamwork.



AI-Informed Insights

Teachers gain insight into how students collaborate, communicate, and contribute to collective problem-solving.

**Confidence · Engagement ·
Achievement · Joy of Learning**



5. From Evidence to Scale

Scale-up roadmap

1

PILOT

Mathematics PBL; 15-year-old students

2

VALIDATE

Field studies across; 5–6 regions

3

EXPAND

Mathematics → Science → Language Arts → Social Studies

4

SCALE

Schools → School Systems → Regions → Nations

A Global Infrastructure for Human Connection

What PISA Made Possible

A common international framework for:

Measuring cognitive achievement

Mathematics · Science · Reading

Learning across countries

Cross-national benchmarks

Continuous educational improvement

Data-driven policy and practice

*What if we
imagined
something
equally
ambitious?*

The Next Frontier

A Global Infrastructure to **MEASURE, COACH & TEACH** **HUMAN CONNECTIONS**

Enabled Through:

- Shared Learning
- Continuous Improvement
- Evidence-Based Innovation

The background is a dark blue field filled with a complex network of glowing blue lines and dots. These lines and dots form a series of interconnected triangles and polygons, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lines vary in brightness, with some appearing as sharp, bright blue points and others as faint, wispy trails. The overall effect is reminiscent of a digital network or a molecular structure.

Thank you