7 Strategic Steps To Start Your Organisation's AI Journey

For years I subscribed to the maxim "Learning before technology".

It makes sense. Education is about learning and any educational technology worth its salt should support learning. But what do we do when the technology is so far advanced that it changes how we learn?

We have to start taking the technology more seriously.

The attitude of "Learning before technology" has mainly served to keep transformative technology in a box. Its wings have been clipped. We've become masters of making technology "support the way we've always done it".

The artificial intelligence we will encounter in the coming months and years won't be obedient. It will change the world around us and if we aren't proactive it will make the education system irrelevant. We're going to have to take risks.

Why must we adapt?

1. Preparation of students for their future careers

As we prepare our students for future success, we must equip them with the skills and knowledge they need in a rapidly evolving digital landscape. AI offers a multitude of avenues to enhance learning, from personalised

education to smart content creation. Students exposed to AI technology will gain a competitive edge and essential digital literacy.

2. Equipping educators with the best tools

AI can provide staff with powerful tools to enhance their teaching methodologies and administrative efficiency. This will allow educators to focus on the core of their work: teaching and mentoring. Advanced AI tools can also provide personalised insights into student performance, enabling educators to cater to individual learning needs effectively.

3. Staying relevant as an educational provider

In an era defined by technological innovation, educational institutions that fail to adapt will be left behind. Embracing AI in education is not about replacing human interaction, but about augmenting human potential. An AI strategy can facilitate the transformation of learning environments, making them more engaging, inclusive, and effective, ultimately ensuring schools stay at the forefront of education.

Hold On Tight

The progress of artificial intelligence will move at a fast rate.

Tools like ChatGPT and Google Bard are currently providing educators with some of the most powerful technology ever created, yet Greg Brockman, the co-founder of OpenAI, recently stated that “a year from now we'll look back fondly on the AI that exists today as quaint & antiquated”.

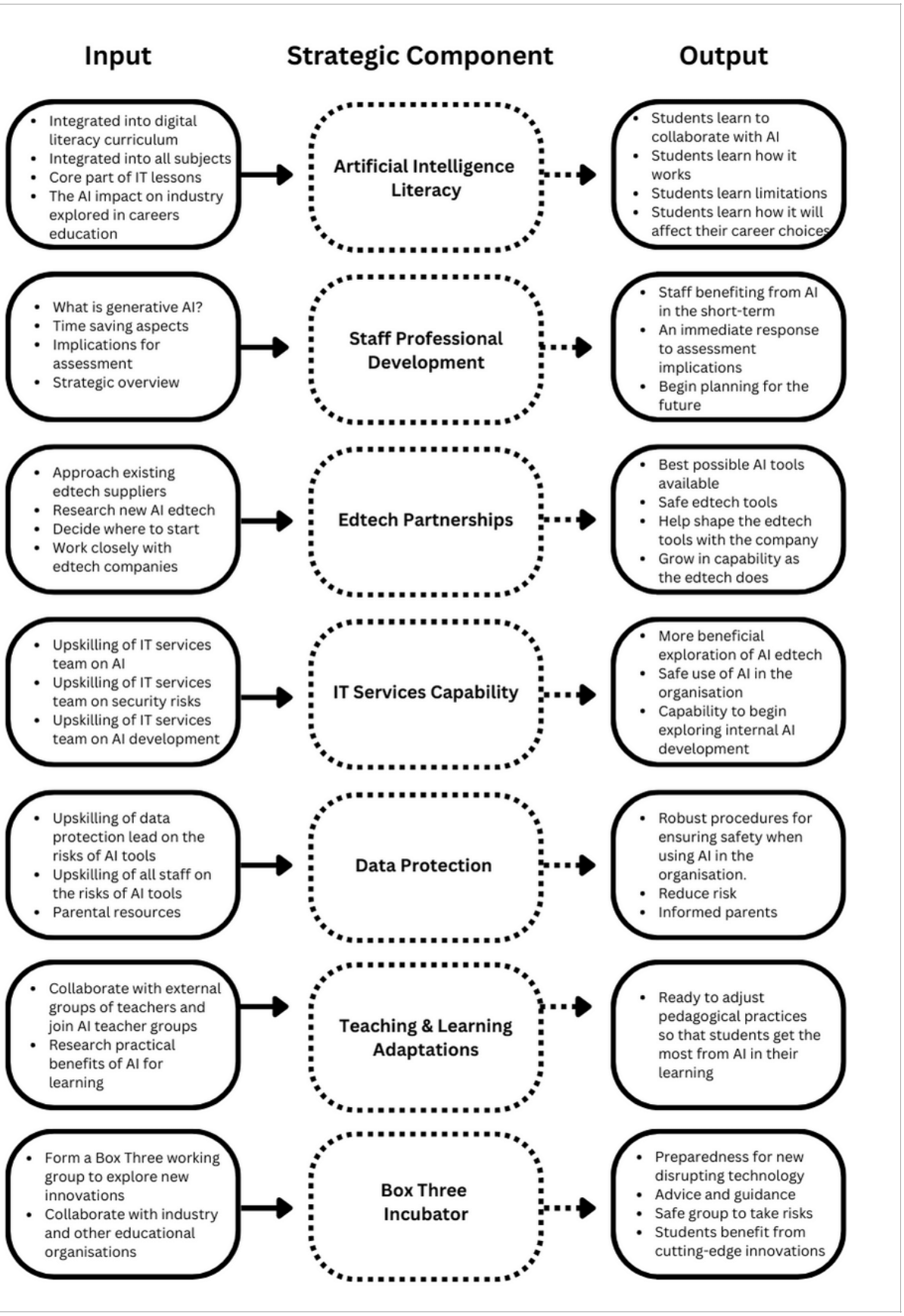
It is impossible for most educational organisations to move at the same pace as tech industries. It is also extremely difficult for most educational organisations to dedicate resources, such as staffing, time and budget, to this type of activity. However, even in light of these realities, we need to do what we can to innovate and move forward. We might not be able to move

at pace on our own, but we can progress steadily and in collaboration with external partners.

In order to pursue non-linear Box Three innovations we will need to set our focus on long-term goals (more on this next week). **Click here to find out more about Box Three Innovations.**

There are immediate short-term goals we can explore and implement.

Short Term (3-6 months) AI Strategic Overview


Input
Strategic Component
Output
Integrated into digital literacy curriculum
Integrated into all subjects
Core part of IT lessons
The AI impact on industry explored in careers education
Artificial Intelligence Literacy
Students learn to collaborate with AI
Students learn how it works
Students learn limitations
Students learn how it will affect their career choices
What is generative AI?
Time saving aspects
Implications for assessment
Strategic overview
Staff Professional Development
Staff benefiting from AI in the short-term
An immediate response to assessment implications
Begin planning for the future
Approach existing edtech suppliers
Research new AI edtech
Decide where to start
Work closely with edtech companies
Edtech Partnerships
Best possible AI tools available
Safe edtech tools
Help shape the edtech tools with the company
Grow in capability as the edtech does
Upskilling of IT services team on AI
Upskilling of IT services team on security risks
Upskilling of IT services team on AI development
IT Services Capability
More beneficial exploration of AI edtech
Safe use of AI in the organisation
Capability to begin exploring internal AI development
Upskilling of data protection lead on the risks of AI tools
Upskilling of all staff on the risks of AI tools
Parental resources
Data Protection
Robust procedures for ensuring safety when using AI in the organisation.
Reduce risk
Informed parents
Collaborate with external groups of teachers and join AI teacher groups
Research practical benefits of AI for learning
Teaching & Learning Adaptations
Ready to adjust pedagogical practices so that students get the most from AI in their learning
Form a Box Three working group to explore new innovations
Collaborate with industry and other educational organisations
Box Three Incubator
Preparedness for new disrupting technology
Advice and guidance
Safe group to take risks
Students benefit from cutting-edge innovations

To access an editable version of the strategic plan above click join the **new #AlinEdu Twitter Community** and you'll find the link in the pinned tweet.