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AI Digital Textbooks for 2025 to Realize Personalized Education for All

- A total of 76 AI digital textbooks are approved for their use in 2025.
- AI digital textbooks will be used for grades 3-4 in elementary, grade 1 in middle and grade 1 in high school for English, mathematics, and coding.
- Teachers will be thoroughly prepared and digital infrastructure will be reinforced to ensure AI digital textbooks are smoothly introduced in the classroom.

On November 29, the Ministry of Education announced the results of the 2024 AI digital textbook approval test results, along with an adjusted implementation roadmap for their introduction in 2025.

【AI Digital Textbooks Confirmed for 2025】

The 2024 test evaluated a total of 146 AI digital textbooks submitted for English, math, and coding in grades 3-4 of elementary school, grade 1 of middle school, and common subjects of high school. The certification committee, composed of experts and teachers, meticulously reviewed the content. This included verifying if the materials facilitate effective personalized learning aligned with the curriculum, offer proper technical functionality and learning support features, and ensure secure data and personal information management.

Following this rigorous process, 76 AI digital textbooks from 12 applicants were approved. These will be implemented in classrooms from the first semester of 2025 through a selection process involving schools.

【Introduction of AI Digital Textbooks Tailored to Educational Needs】

< Adjusted Roadmap for AI Digital Textbook Implementation (tbc) >

	Subjects	Previously	Now
Elementary	English, math, coding	Phased rollout in 2025 → Complete rollout in 2027	Unchanged
	Social science (history), science	Phased rollout in 2026 → Complete rollout in 2028	Phased rollout in 2027 → Complete rollout in 2028
	Korean, home economics	Phased rollout in 2026 → Complete rollout in 2028	Exempted
Middle	English, math, coding	Phased rollout in 2025 → Complete rollout in 2027	Unchanged
	Social studies (Korean history)	Phased rollout in 2027 → Complete rollout in 2028	Phased rollout in 2027 → Complete rollout in 2028
	Science	Phased rollout in 2026 → Complete rollout in 2028	
	Korean, Technology·home economics	Phased rollout in 2026 → Complete rollout in 2028	Exempted
High	English, math, coding	Phased rollout in 2025 → Complete rollout in 2027	Unchanged
	Social studies (Korean history), science	Rollout in 2028	Unchanged
	Korean, home economics	Rollout in 2028	Exempted
Special	Korean	Phased rollout in 2025 in elementary school	Rollout in 2027 in middle school → Rollout in 2028 in high school
	Math	Phased rollout in 2026 in elementary school	Rollout in 2027 in middle school → Rollout in 2028 in high school
	Conversational English	Rollout in 2027	Exempted
	Information & communication	Rollout in 2028	Exempted

The AI Digital Textbook Promotion Plan, announced in June 2023, originally proposed introducing them first to math, English, coding, and Korean language (special education) in 2025. The plan aimed to expand to Korean language, social studies, history, science, technology, and home economics by 2028.

Throughout the process, the Ministry of Education has collaborated with local school boards. This collaboration involved supporting digital textbook development, teacher training, and improving school digital infrastructure, as

outlined in the agreement* with the National Council of Provincial Superintendents of Education (May 2023). In October 2024, the National Council of Provincial Superintendents of Education proposed maintaining the planned 2024 introduction for AI digital textbooks. However, they also suggested adjustments for subjects implemented after 2026, incorporating feedback from schools.

*Agreement between the Ministry of Education and the National Council of Provincial Superintendents of Education for Digital Education Innovation (May 2023): "The National Council of Provincial Superintendents of Education shall cooperate in the development and utilization of AI digital textbooks promoted by the Ministry of Education."

In response to feedback from the education communities, expert opinions, and policy conditions of provincial offices of education, the Ministry of Education adjusted the implementation roadmap for AI digital textbooks as follows: ❶ In 2025, the focus is on demonstrating classroom transformation through AI digital textbooks in English, math, and coding subjects. ❷ Korean, technology, and home economics will be excluded for now, while social studies and science will be included in 2027. ❸ The basic curriculum for special education developed as government-issued textbooks will prioritize Korean and math subjects for elementary, middle, and high schools. Conversational English, and information & communication subjects will be excluded for the time being.

【Preparing for AI digital textbooks for March 2025】

In the process of introducing AI digital textbooks, the Ministry of Education has been continuously listening to the opinions of teachers, parents, and others in the field, and has supported the smooth utilization of AI digital textbooks in the classroom, including strengthening the capabilities of teachers and improving the digital infrastructure* of schools.

* Digital Education Innovation Capacity Enhancement Support Plan (Apr. 2024), Elementary and Secondary Digital Infrastructure Improvement Plan (May 2024)

Accordingly, we will train 10,000 leading teachers for the Classroom

Revolution initiative in the first half of 2024 and 150,000 teachers in the second half of the year in cooperation with provincial offices of education. In particular, starting in December, we will provide training for schools to select suitable AI digital textbooks based on the "selection evaluation criteria" for textbooks that have passed the test. Additionally, after schools select textbooks, we will provide practical training on lesson design centered on student participation, enabling teachers to intensively research and design effective instructional strategies using AI digital textbooks.

The Ministry is also actively improving the digital infrastructure of schools to ensure the smooth operation of AI digital textbooks. Devices have been fully equipped for the 2025 school year, and devices and networks in schools nationwide are being inspected and improved from July this year to February next year in cooperation with city and provincial offices of education. Furthermore, digital tutors (1,200 in 2025) will be deployed to schools to alleviate the burden of managing digital infrastructure for teachers, and tech centers for each office of education will be operated to support schools' use of AI digital textbooks.

【Realizing Personalized Education for All】

Through AI digital textbooks, students can more easily understand concepts, become more interested in learning through diverse learning content tailored to their level, and actively participate in class. Teachers can better understand their students' learning situations based on data provided by AI digital textbooks, making it easier to design and implement engaging lessons, such as discussion and problem-solving activities, with personalized guidance. This is expected to help teachers innovate their teaching methods and realize personalized education for students, creating an educational environment where students can grow and develop their future capabilities

regardless of region or income.

"With the introduction of AI digital textbooks, now is the time to awaken sleeping classrooms by utilizing digital technology wisely," said Lee Ju-Ho, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Education. "Although there will be many challenges for teachers as AI digital textbooks are introduced for the first time, we hope that they will join forces during this golden opportunity to transform classrooms and schools. The Ministry of Education will spare no effort to support them."

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