

# AI Changes the Tools, Not the Rules..?

Let's talk about Learning Context...



# When AI does not have all the facts.

How do you think AI should respond in education when it does not have all the facts?

“Sorry, I can’t help”

REFUSAL

Best Guess

GENERALISE

Try to help

HALLUCINATE



# When Context Is Missing

It looks like this..

## Progress Ignored

The system can't see what the learner already knows.

## Objectives Misaligned

*Feedback isn't grounded in course goals or assessment design.*

## Constraints Unknown

*Course rules, policies, or allowed practices aren't visible..*

## Inconsistent Behaviour

Different tools and models produce different answers to the same situation.

**These are not model failures - they are context failures.**





# Agenda

AI Changes the Tools, Not the Rules..

- What is Learning Context?
- Difference between Context, Data, and Standards
- Learning Context Developments Today
- Governance, Policy and Context
- Ongoing plans



# What is Learning Context?

Is it a Standard? Is it Data? Where does it belong?

A learning context describes a learning situation.

- **Who** the learner is
- **What** they are doing
- **Why** they are doing it
- **When** it is happening
- **Which** information is relevant
- **Any** constraints



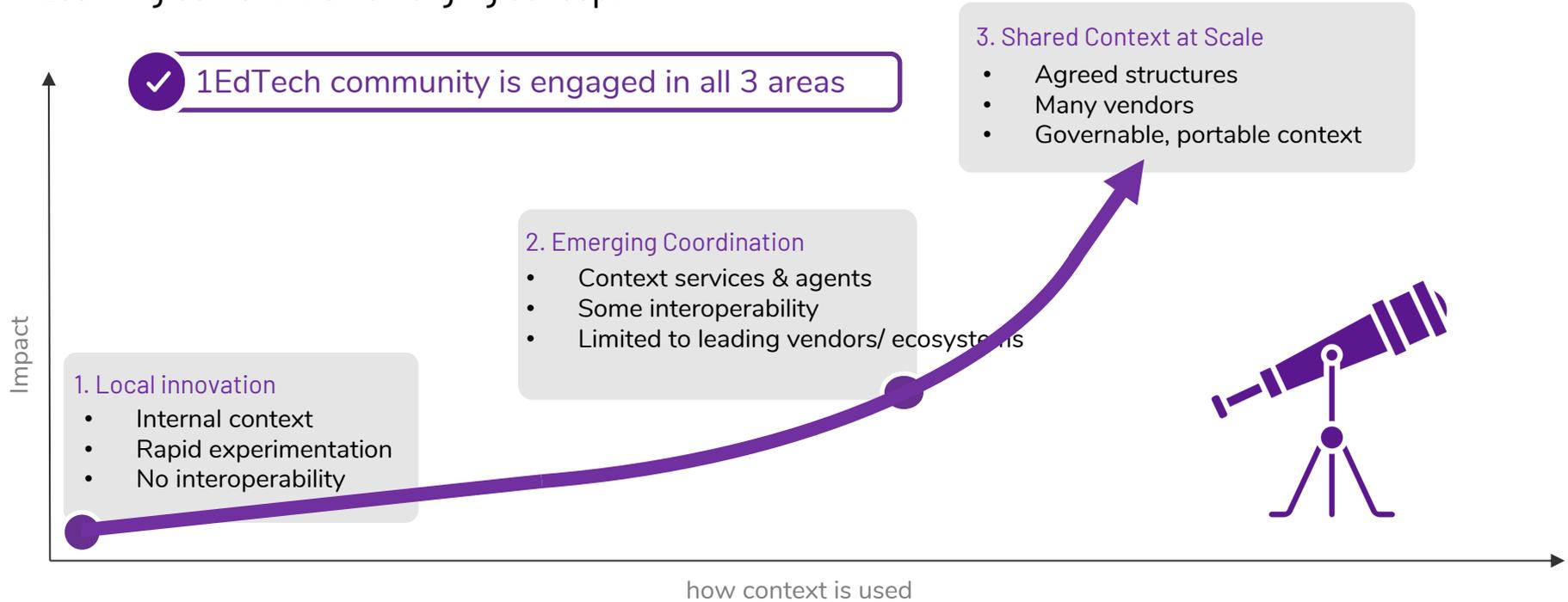
**...for a specific moment and purpose.**

Learning context should describe just enough - not the whole system



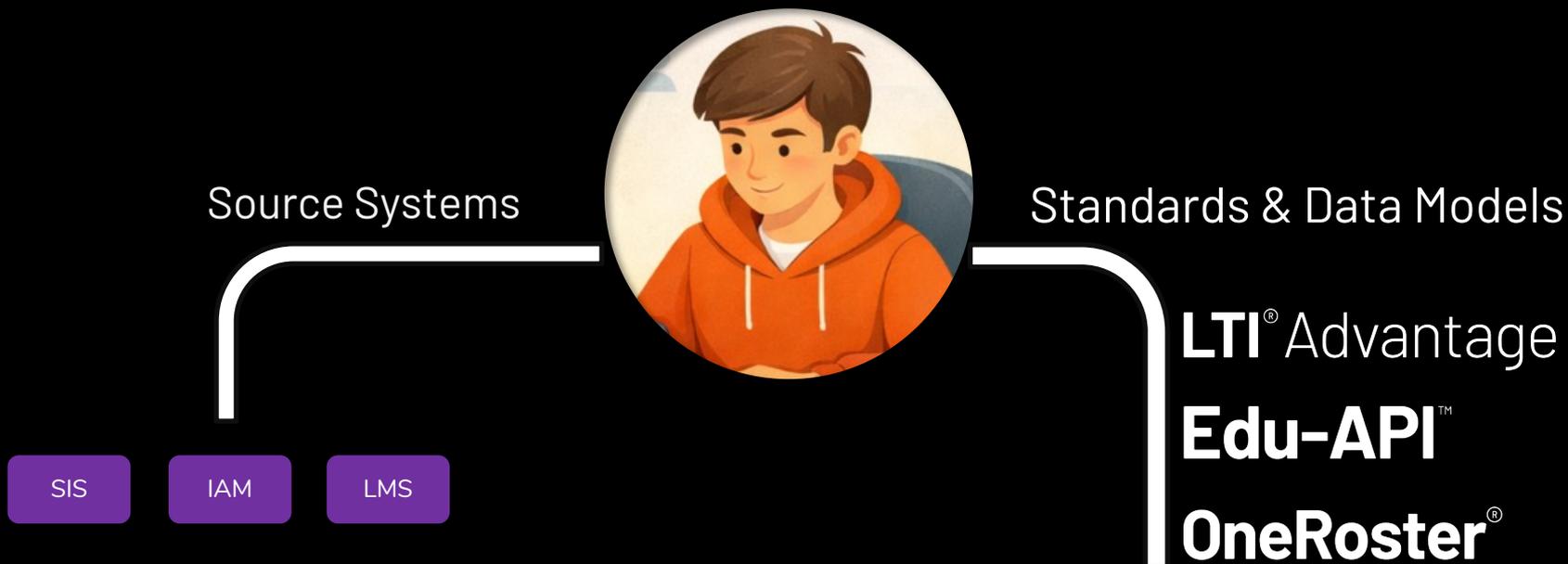
# Learning Context Development Curve

Learning Context is an emerging concept



Context needs

# Learner Information





Context needs

# Course & Content Information

Source Systems

SCHEDULING

CATALOG

LMS

Standards & Data Models

LTI<sup>®</sup> Advantage

Edu-API<sup>™</sup> OneRoster<sup>®</sup>

Common Cartridge<sup>®</sup>

Context needs

# Skills, Competencies, Curriculum

Source Systems

CURRICULUM

REGIONAL STANDARDS

DOCS

Standards & Data Models

**CASE**<sup>®</sup>



Context needs

# Grades, Progress, Performance



## Source Systems

SIS

LMS

## Standards & Data Models

**LTI**<sup>®</sup> Advantage

**Edu-API**<sup>™</sup> **OneRoster**<sup>®</sup>

**Common Cartridge**<sup>®</sup>

**QTI**<sup>®</sup> Question and Test  
Interoperability<sup>®</sup>

Context needs

# Achievements, Transcripts



Source Systems

CREDENTIAL PLATFORMS

LMS

SIS

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Standards & Data Models

**Open Badges**

**CLR Standard**<sup>®</sup>  
Comprehensive Learner Record Standard<sup>™</sup>

Context needs

# Personal Needs, Accessibility

## Source Systems

LMS

SIS

Spreadsheets

## Standards & Data Models

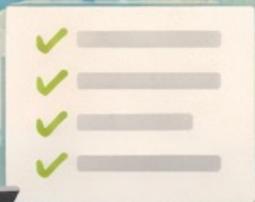
**QTI**<sup>®</sup> Question and Test  
Interoperability<sup>®</sup>

**PNP** Personal Needs  
And Preferences

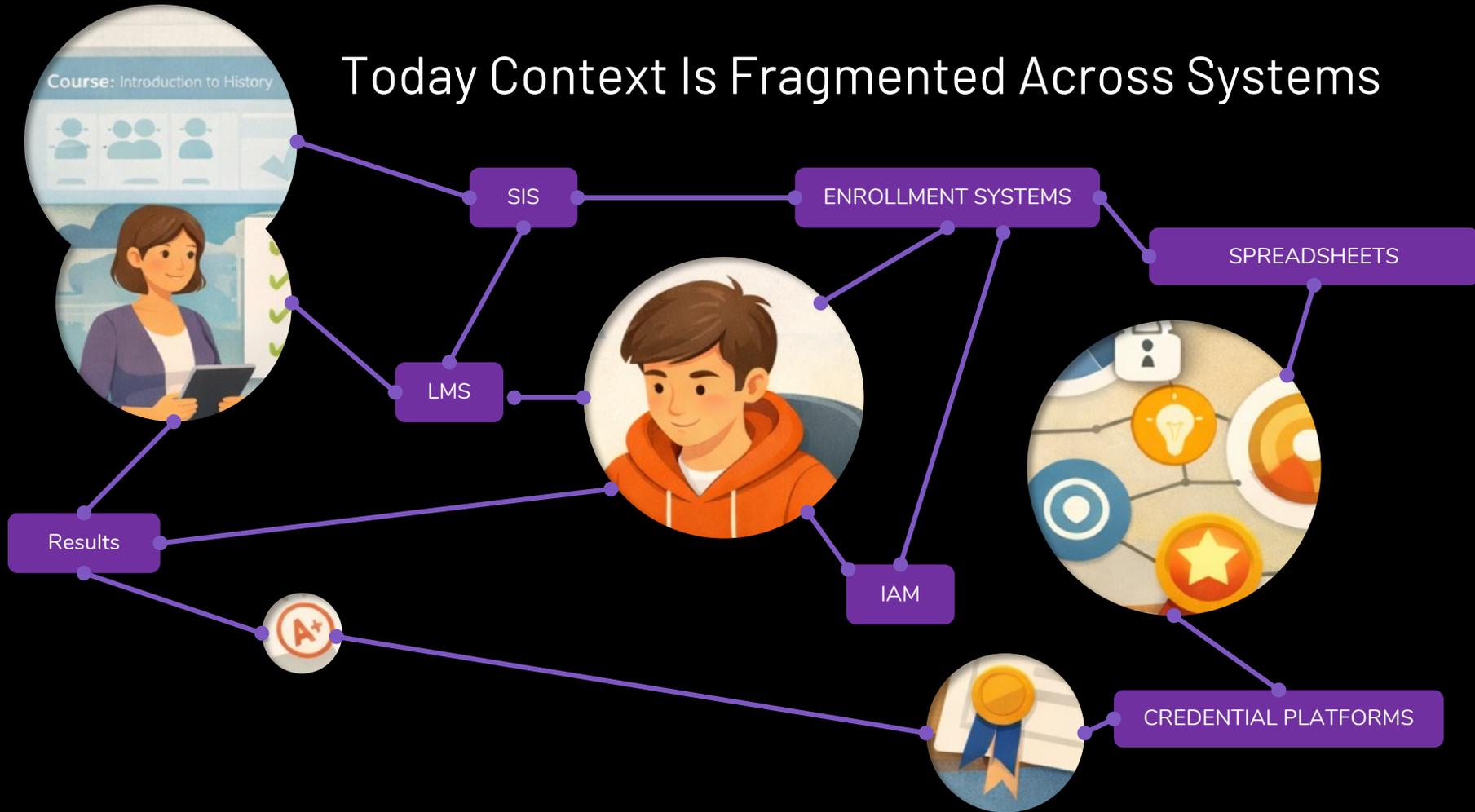
**AccessForAll**<sup>®</sup>



Course: Introduction to History



# Today Context Is Fragmented Across Systems



# Qualities of Context

Describes a learning situation.



## Context is time-bound.

It reflects a specific moment, not a permanent state.

## Context is situation-bounded.

It is defined by what is happening, not by a data standard or the system that produced it.

## Context is broad, not deep.

It spans many kinds of information, but only the relevant parts of each.

## Context is only relevant information.

It captures what matters for a situation - not everything a system knows

## Context is dynamic and event-driven.

Every interaction creates a new context



# We Already Have the Vocabulary

25 Years Of Development Across Global Education Community



Any learning situation can be described using a **subset** of our shared vocabulary





# Important Distinction

Shared context is not the same as interoperability.

**Interoperability** is about moving data between **systems**.

**Shared context** describes **what's happening** right now.



# Shared Context Requires New Patterns

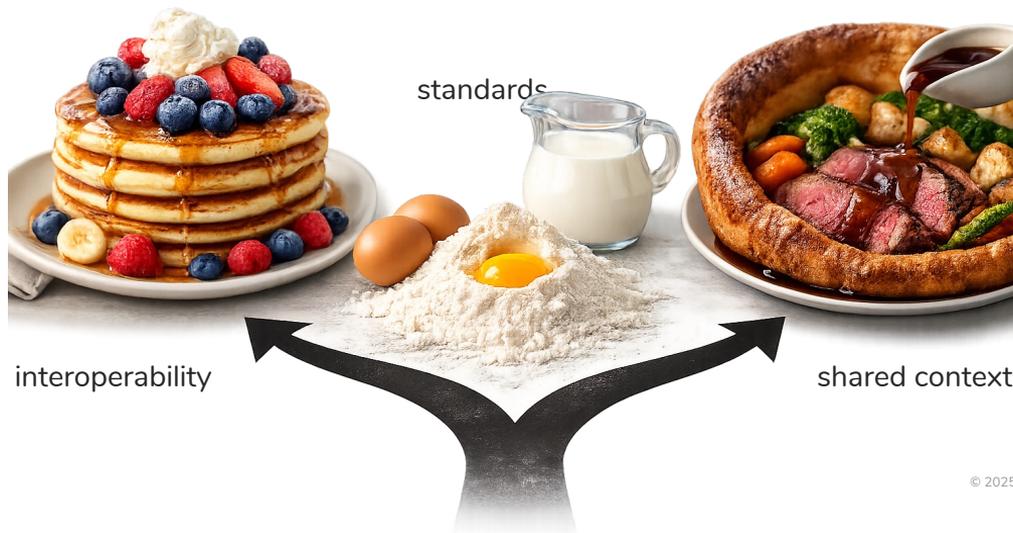
Same ingredients. New recipe.

## We already have the ingredients

Learners • Courses • Skills  
Progress • Achievements • etc

## Shared Context is the recipe

It defines how the right ingredients are assembled  
to describe a specific learning situation.



# Shared Context

A structure to capture just enough information to describe a learning situation



context

2026-1-13T10:03 Context A

Learner Information: **30%**

Course Information: **10%**

Curriculum/ Skills: **25%**

Progress Data: **25%**

Achievements: **10%**

Personal Needs: **0%**

Etc...

vocabularies

LTI<sup>®</sup> Advantage

Edu-API<sup>™</sup>

CASE<sup>®</sup>

LTI<sup>®</sup> Advantage

QTI<sup>®</sup>

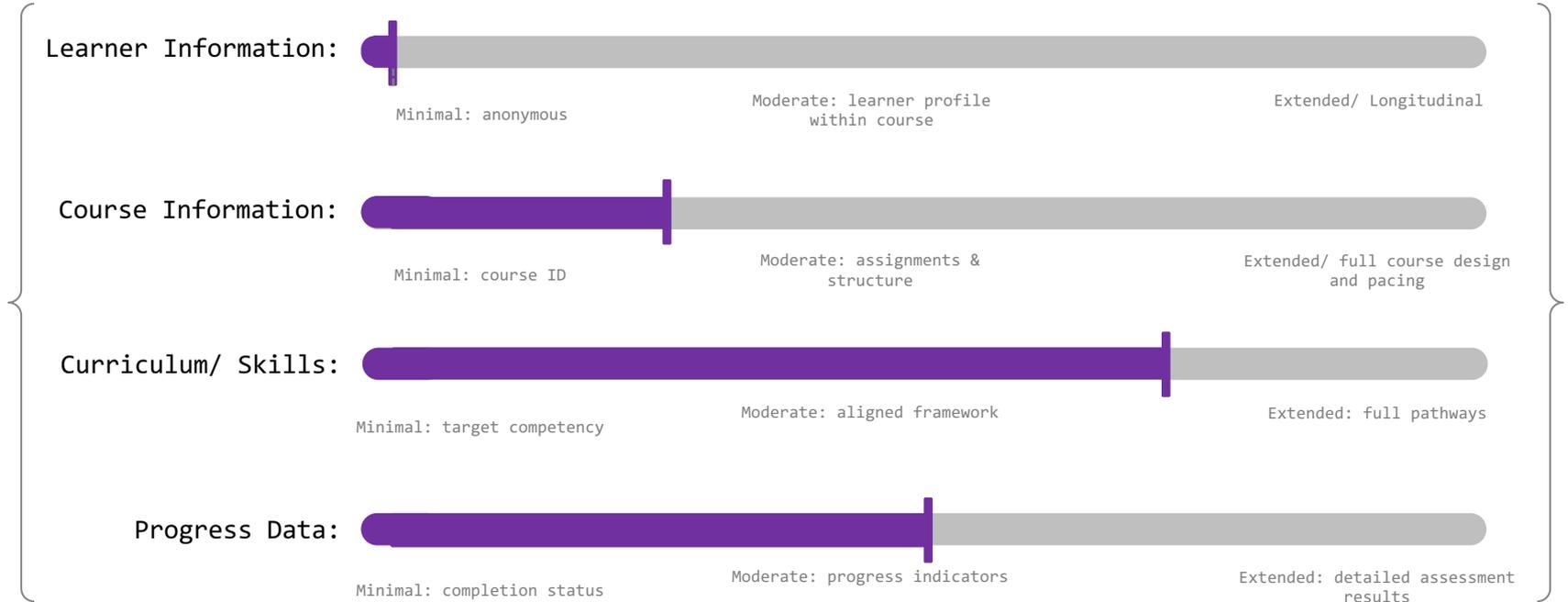
E L M EDC OpenID, SAML...

Including non-1EdTech Standards



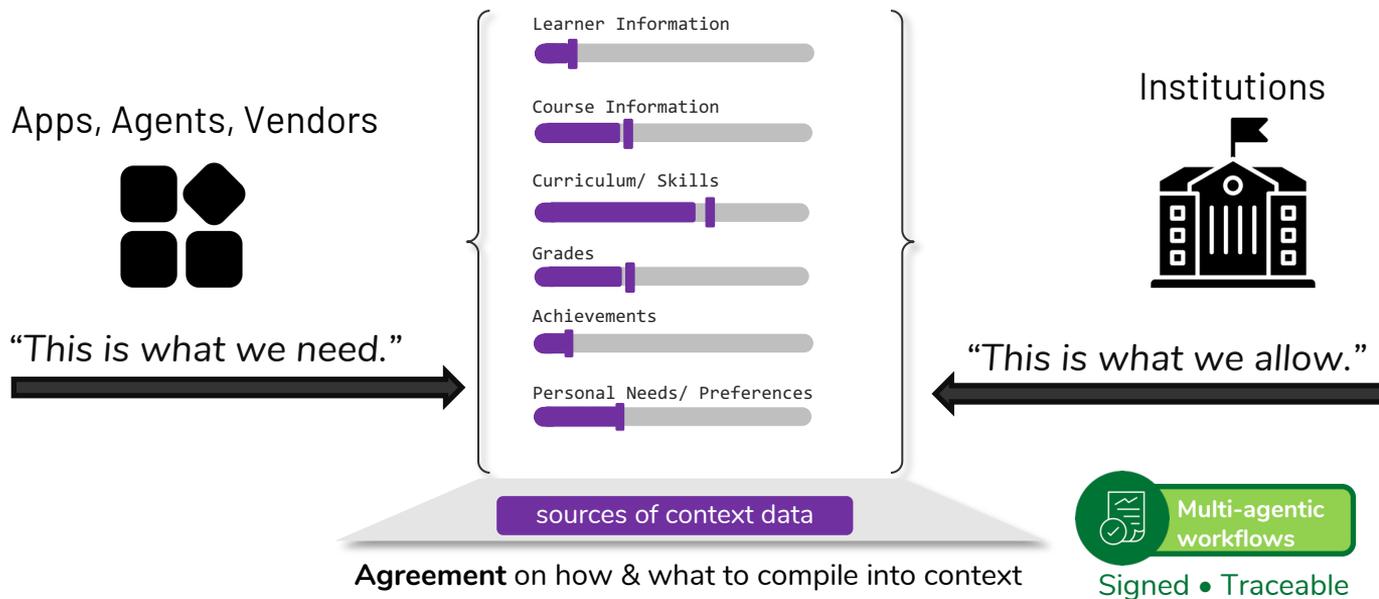
# Shared Context

A structure provides a backbone for governance



# Shared Context as a Coordinating Artifact

A backbone for coordination, governance, and trust



Intent, consent, and trust travel together.



☀️ Good afternoon, Michael

How can I help you today?



Opus 4.5



Write

Learn

Code

Life stuff

From Drive

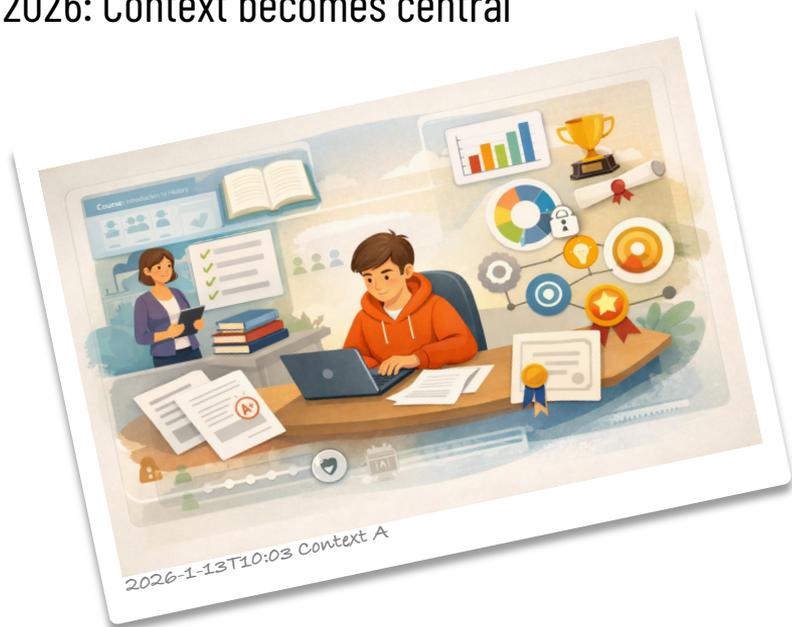
Chat deleted

```
default.json
probe_A1_results.json
probe_A2_results.json
probe_B1_results.json
probe_B2_results.json
probe_C1_results.json
probe_C2_results.json
proxy_min.exe
RESULTS_IL_DRAFT.md
run0_results.jsonl

{
  "policy_id": "share_full",
  "name": "Full Access Policy",
  "status": "allow",
  "redact_fields": []
}
```

# Summary

2026: Context becomes central



If you want to help shape this future — join us



**We don't want this choice.**

Refuse • Generalise • Hallucinate

**We want AI to operate in a learning context**

Shared • defined • controlled • governed

**Shared context is a new class of opportunity**

Learning platforms • services • agentic workflows

**Open Standards are more critical than ever**

They provide the shared vocabulary and structure that make context portable and governable.

**The community is already moving**

- Near-term innovation
- Emerging context services
- Longer-term shared context infrastructure



# What's coming

- **Already ongoing:** MCP experimentation and sharing in the community
- **Tomorrow:** Call for participation for learning context use cases (monthly calls, 1EdTech members only)
- **April:** Call for participation for AI technical project group, based on use cases (monthly calls, 1EdTech Contributing Members only)
- **June:** Learning Impact Conference in San Francisco, June 1-3, [1edtech.org/event/li/2026](https://1edtech.org/event/li/2026)
  - Google pre-conference hackathon (limited seating, Contributing Members Only)
  - Demonstrations at the conference of the results (everyone who comes)
  - White paper and RFC about larger learning context proposal released (everyone, open comments)
- **After June:** We're off to the races!

To participate, email Jacques Menasche: [jmenasche@1edtech.org](mailto:jmenasche@1edtech.org)

