Advantages of traditional classrooms

We have discussed MOOCs and their advantages and disadvantages compared to traditional classrooms, but you might be wandering, how does traditional classrooms compare to MOOCs? It’s a valid statement due to technology being as powerful as it is now and classrooms having to compete and question the significance of online class learning over traditional learning. Even though it costs less to do online courses and more convenient, does that mean traditional classrooms will be a thing of the past in the near future? Well, to make a conclusion lets first look at the advantages of traditional classrooms. Traditional classrooms are more interactive. By interactive, I mean, students have more interaction between the teachers, which helps with getting one on one help if needed and immediate feedback on answers based off questions being asked from the students. Also, students get interaction with other students, which helps with sociability skills and they learn cooperative skills when working with groups as well. Accessibility is another advantage. Traditional classrooms are accessible, for the majority, to any and everyone. Not everyone has technology or very tech savvy, so the best way to learn for those students are to have access to a classroom and learn from a teacher by taking notes. For the students that have gone to a traditional classroom their entire school career, taking them away from that environment can throw off their motivation to succeed. Sure, being in the comfort of your own is nice, but like the saying goes, don’t get too comfortable. A classroom is a place you know you have to succeed at in order to be prepared for the “real world.” The class work is still there while you’re at your house, but the environment is changed and you’re no longer in a place that requires the same amount of focus. When you’re in a place of comfortability, procrastination, motivation, and lack of understanding occurs. Traditional classrooms are also organized. Students have a set schedule dedicated specifically for learning, so once students get comfortable following a set routine, focusing on the topic at hand becomes natural instead of forcing yourself to learn the material at different points in time. It’s good for students to be interactive with their teachers and classmates, to be focused and motivated and to have a schedule that allows them to set aside time to actually learn the material. These things are essential for every student. So if traditional classrooms are so effective in providing such a rich foundation for learning, can MOOCs really be an effective replacement?