

The School Surveillance System That Knows Too Much

What's happening: A school installs an AI system to monitor student behaviour via cameras. It flags “suspicious” activity like loitering, skipping class, or even emotional expressions that suggest distress.

What's problematic: This raises serious privacy concerns. Students are constantly watched, and the system may misinterpret cultural expressions or neurodivergent behaviour as “suspicious.” That’s a recipe for unfair treatment and emotional harm.

One improvement idea: Limit the scope of surveillance and involve students in the design process. Use participatory design to ensure the system respects cultural and emotional diversity. Also, implement strict data governance because not every frown needs to be flagged.

Blog-style vibe:

Imagine being watched every second at school not by teachers, but by a silent AI judge. Creepy, right? These systems mean well, but they often miss the human nuance. A yawn isn't rebellion. A hoodie isn't a threat. Let's build AI that sees students as people, not patterns. Privacy and empathy should be part of the curriculum too.