

Generative AI Without Guardrails Can Harm Learning — A Turkish High-School RCT of GPT Tutors

AI in Education · Good practice · Türkiye

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Randomised controlled trial

Summary

A randomised trial of nearly 1,000 Turkish high-schoolers found unrestricted GPT-4 ('GPT Base') lifted practice scores 48% but cut unassisted exam scores 17% versus controls; a pedagogically-guarded 'GPT Tutor' lifted practice scores 127% with no exam harm.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of learning impact	3/3
Equity & inclusion	0/3
Transparency, ethics & data protection	1/3
Teacher capability & pedagogy	1/3
Scalability & sustainability	0/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

[Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania \(Bastani et al. research team\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

[PNAS peer-reviewed paper](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

[Knowledge at Wharton coverage](#) — accessed 2026-08-18

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