Social Robots for Education

Robots could be useful tools to help children learn - not to replace school or teachers, but in addition to these in order to provide complementary, and potentially more individualised, learning opportunities. We have a number of years of experience working with teachers, children, and their parents trying to develop the necessary technology and understanding to find out how such robots could be genuinely useful. We do so by (typically) bringing our robots (such as those pictured) to a school, and learning from having the children engage in various activities with them.

Primarily for teachers and parents, the purpose of this and future newsletters is to show you what we've been up to (e.g. school visits, events, etc), and to provide updates on our progress. If you are (and your school is) interested in taking part, then please do contact us, and we will include you in our future activities.

Summer Scientist 2017

In August 2017, we conducted a study with over 90 children (aged 3 to 10) who visited the University of Lincoln to take part in the Summer Scientist event.

A collaboration between the Schools of Psychology and Computer Science, we were interested in how children can tell the difference between real and pretend characters in stories told by a robot (pictured right). Having a better idea of how children of different ages respond to the robot in this context will help us further work on robots to help children with learning outcomes, and those with autism spectrum disorders with cognitive and social skill practice. Stay tuned for the results!

Future events: come and see the L-CAS robots at the LiGHTS festival at the University of Lincoln on Friday the 29th of September.

** Please note that links are embedded within this document - please use the electronic version of this newsletter.