

Press release 8 October 2019

EDTECH COMPANY TAPESTRY LAUNCHES NEW REFLECTIVE PRACTICE FEATURE

<u>Tapestry</u>, the subscription service which enables early years educators to capture children's learning and development, has launched a new tool to help practitioners to undertake and record their reflective practice. The new tool, which is called Reflections, coincides with the company's seven year anniversary and will be available free charge to all Tapestry users in a staged release during October.

Reflections is a flexible tool to support staff and leaders in any setting to evaluate the quality of their practice and provision. Reflective practice is an important consideration in Ofsted inspections, however practitioners can struggle to allocate time or lack an understanding of what it involves. Reflections is designed so it can become part of day-to-day work, rather than something practitioners need to do on top of everything else.

Tapestry Reflections has been developed to help address these issues, and Dr Helen Edwards, co-founder of Tapestry said: "We've designed Reflections as a simple and easy to use tool where both staff and leaders can add their thoughts around their practice. Individuals are in the driving seat and they decide when to share a reflection and with whom. My hope is that it will become the norm for practitioners in a setting to share their reflections with each other and so develop a culture of collaborative reflection which is a powerful tool for improvement."

Tapestry has grown rapidly since its launch in October 2012 and is now used by more than 17,000 schools and settings across the world. This means that Tapestry is currently a custodian for the journals of almost 900,000 individual children, many of which are also accessed by those children's parents and carers.

Lucy Price, Nursery Director at Woodentots Nursery and one of the very first settings to use Tapestry said: "Tapestry has really evolved over the seven years we have been using it. We first decided to use Tapestry to enhance the communication between the setting and parents. We are based on a military establishment with as many as 50% of parents deployed away from home, so Tapestry has enabled us to achieve a much higher level of communication with these parents, particularly in relation to their child's progress."

Tapestry was the brainchild of Dr Helen Edwards and her technologist husband Steve Edwards. Together they had previously developed the successful Foundation Stage Forum which has more than 30,000 members. Steve Edwards explained how he felt when the couple first launched Tapestry: "I recall vividly pressing the button to launch Tapestry and waiting to see what the early years community would say. We had worked closely with members of the Foundation Stage Forum so we felt confident it met the needs of the sector but it



was still a tense moment. Imagine our delight when just before midday on the 1st October we had our first customer."

For more information visit: https://tapestry.info

ENDS

For more information contact Anna Pedroza, 07813 938 020, anna@pedrozacommunications.co.uk

Notes to editors

About Tapestry

Tapestry is an online learning journal which enables educators to capture children's learning and development throughout the day. Using sophisticated digital technologies, Tapestry is changing the way children's learning journeys are recorded in early years education, and helping practitioners to use their time as effectively as possible.

Tapestry is also transforming the way parents and carers stay in touch with what their young children are doing throughout the day, and helps to strengthen the link between young children's development at home and in their early years setting.

Tapestry is the brainchild of early years practitioner Dr Helen Edwards and her technologist husband Steve Edwards. They are deeply involved in the early years sector and previously created the successful Foundation Stage Forum which has more than 30,000 members. Tapestry is also a sponsor of the All Party Parliamentary Group for Childcare and Early Education.

Tapestry has been developed by Foundation Stage Forum Ltd, an educational technology company which was founded in 2012. Tapestry has more than 17,000 accounts and is used in more than 40 countries.

For more information visit: https://tapestry.info