

Friday 9th September 2022

## **Tapestry shortlisted for their work to support teachers working with children with learning differences and disabilities**

Tapestry, the online learning journal founded by the Foundation Stage Forum, has been shortlisted for the Teach Primary Awards SEN category for its [Cherry Garden Branch Maps](#), a tool which helps teachers to capture and celebrate the learning and development of children with learning differences and disabilities.

The ground-breaking tool was created in partnership with Ofsted Outstanding specialist school, Cherry Garden. The school developed a paper-based version, and Tapestry designed and developed an online, interactive alternative working closely with the school team.

Stephen Kilgour, who worked at Cherry Garden School for 11 years and was Deputy Head, led on the project to develop the paper-based version of Cherry Garden Branch Maps. He is now SEND advisor and Outreach Teacher at Tapestry, and said: *"We're really pleased to be shortlisted for this award. We developed Cherry Garden Branch Maps to ensure we could celebrate the progress of all our children and Tapestry's involvement has meant it could have far wider reach. Development doesn't necessarily look the same for all children, which is why tools like the Branch Maps can be very helpful - because they are inclusive and child-centred"*.

Cherry Garden Branch Maps use a unique, interactive orchard to celebrate progress and engage children and families in their learning. They can see the petals on flowers grow and deepen in colour, or follow leaves added to the trees in their orchard as they learn and develop. When a parent or practitioner clicks on a leaf or petal they can access the observations made for that child.

Dr Helen Edwards, Co-founder of Tapestry and a former teacher also welcomed the news: *"We're really pleased to be shortlisted and to join such an impressive group of shortlisted organisations. It coincides with Tapestry's 10<sup>th</sup> birthday, and I couldn't think of a better way to mark this milestone."*

Cherry Garden Branch Maps is available free of charge to all of Tapestry 16,000+ customers. For more information visit: <https://tapestry.info/features/cherry-garden.html>

**ENDS**

**For more information contact:** Anna Pedroza, [anna@pedrozacommunications.co.uk](mailto:anna@pedrozacommunications.co.uk) 07813 938 020

### **Notes to editors**

Tapestry is an online learning journal which enables educators to celebrate, and support, children's learning and development in early years settings and primary schools.

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



Easy to use and underpinned by sophisticated technology, Tapestry is designed to help educators build a picture of every child's development and learning in a way that is shareable with other colleagues, encourages reflective practice and reduces workload. It transforms the way families stay in touch with what their children are doing each day at nursery or school and also provides tools to help them share how their children are developing outside the setting or school.

Tapestry is the brainchild of husband and wife team, technologist Steve Edwards and educator Dr Helen Edwards. They are deeply involved in early years and primary education and previously created the successful Foundation Stage Forum which has 30,000 members. Tapestry has been recognised in the EdTech50 and the BusinessCloud EdTech 50 Innovation ranking.

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

