



# Transforming the learning & teaching landscape through Edtech

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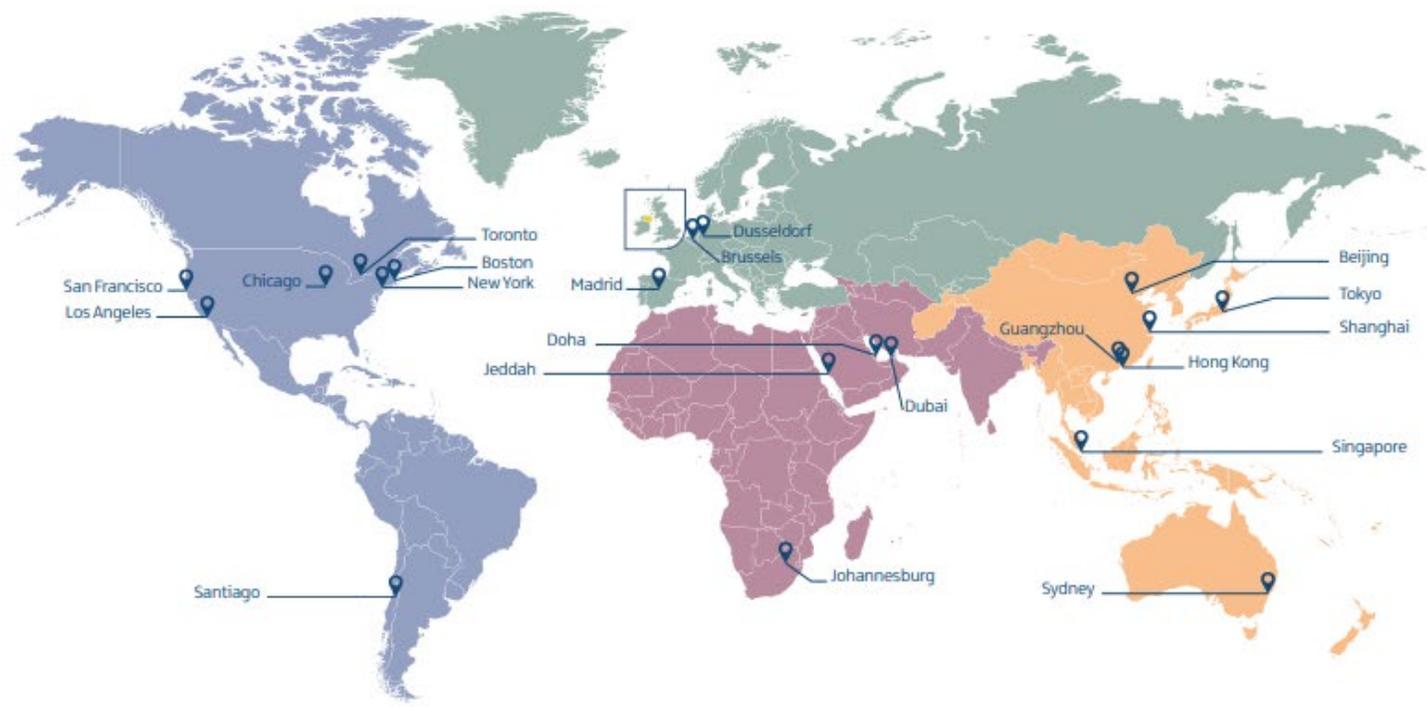
# Who are we?

- ✿ Invest Northern Ireland (INI) is the regional economic development agency.
- ✿ Part of the Department for the Economy and provide strong government support for business by effectively delivering the Government's economic development strategies.
- ✿ INI's purpose is to improve our economy and grow through Jobs, Innovation, Entrepreneurship, Exports and Inward Investment

**1.8mn**  
Population

**55%**  
Under  
Age of 40

**98%**  
Businesses employ  
less than 50 people  
Small Business  
Economy



# Northern Ireland - Education

- ❖ Northern Ireland's education system provides a comprehensive offer both for students seeking a high quality education and for overseas Governments, Ministries and education providers who are looking for a partner region to support the development of their own education provision or to forge research partnerships.
- ❖ **Two world-leading Universities:** Queen's University Belfast & Ulster University –with over 45,000 students from over a 100 countries studying in Belfast.
- ❖ A network of **regional colleges** providing teacher training, professional and technical programs along with an excellent choice of **boarding** and **English Language Schools**.
- ❖ **Belfast** ranked in Top 10 “Tech Cities of the Future” in Europe. (fDi and TNW Tech Cities of the Future for 2020/21)
- ❖ A **vibrant and growing** Edtech sector.

**Best performing education system for primary maths** in Europe, and the **sixth** best in the world

Students from Northern Ireland **consistently outperform** other UK regions at GCSE and A-Level (high school leaving)



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# Agenda

- ✿ Jamie Ball, Regional Education Manager - MEA, **Texthelp**
- ✿ Dr Barry McCollum, CEO, **EventMap Solutions**
- ✿ Celia O'Hagan, Senior Lecturer in Education, **Stranmillis University College**
- ✿ Michael Hicks, Regional Director, MENA, **Firefly Learning**
- ✿ Michael Humphreys, Representing **NI Edtech Collaborative Cluster**
- ✿ Q & A and Discussion



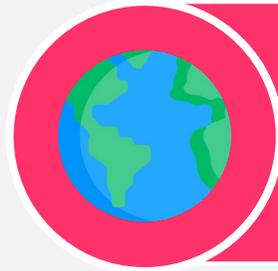
# Jamie Ball | Regional Education Manager – MEA **Texthelp**

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200 employees



7 in 10 US districts use our products



68% of all qualifying UK Higher Ed students



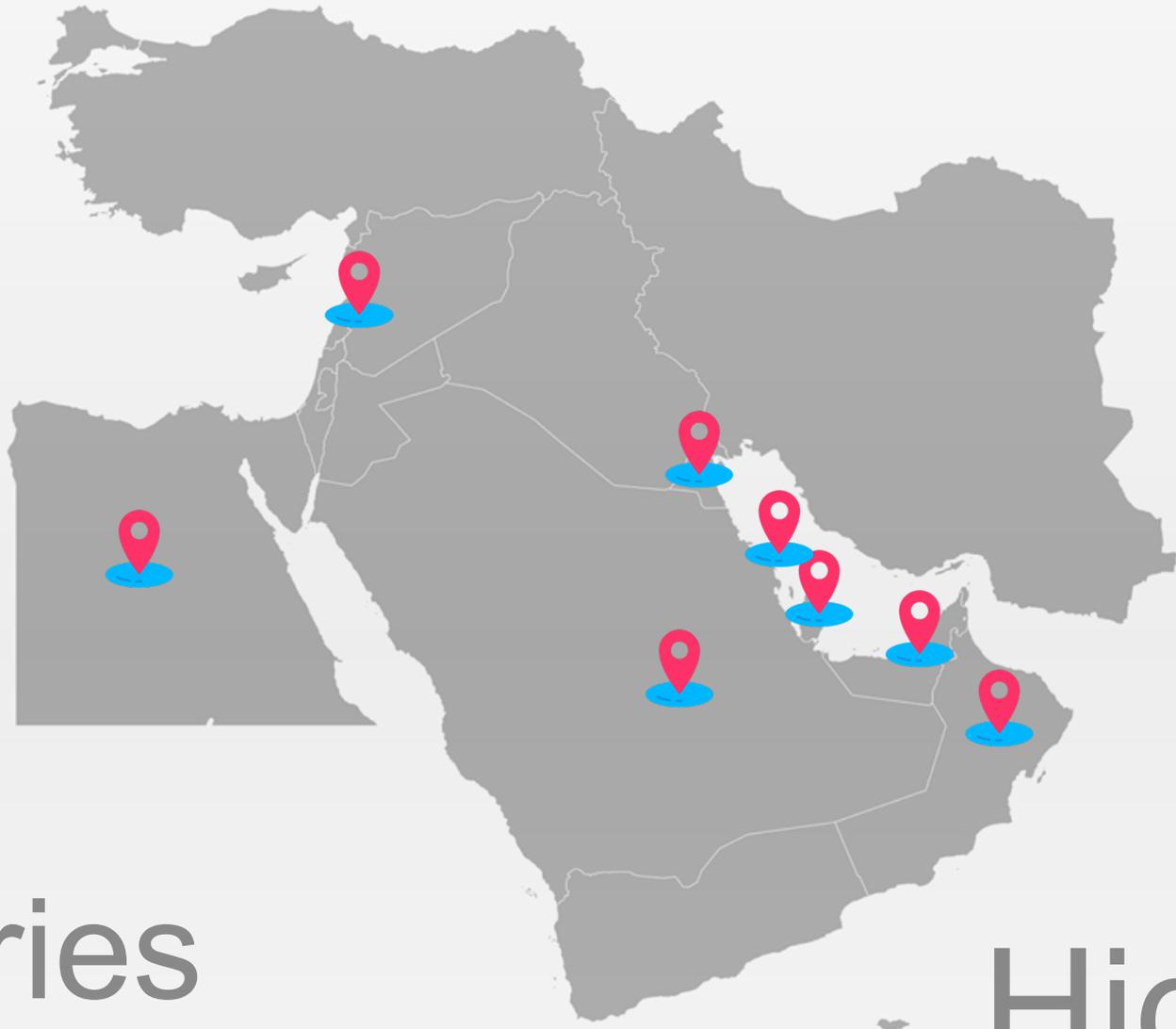
25 K Students onboarded daily



30 million users globally



Texthelp Office



Schools

Groups

Countries

Higher Ed

01

Read, Writing and  
Comprehension

02

Digital Maths

03

Assessment, Feedback  
and Tracking

04

Website  
Accessibility

Delivering  
accessible  
Teaching &  
Learning

- 01** Read, Writing and Comprehension
- 02** Digital Maths
- 03** Assessment, Feedback and Tracking
- 04** Website Accessibility





# أهمية اللغة العربية

Achieving

# Success



## SCHOOLS

Working closely with 15 schools to level the playing field for SEN & ELL students.



جامعة زايد  
ZAYED UNIVERSITY

## HIGHER ED

All students and staff supported for accessibility and learning with Texthelp tools enabled 10,000 students to have support remotely.



## GROWTH

During the remote learning period, Texthelp added 4.7 million users.



Department  
for Education

## ENDORSEMENT

WriQ is now endorsed by the UK DfE as the writing assessment tool for UK Schools.



## AWARDS

Read&Write wins the BETT 2020 award for 'Best International Resource', with WriQ taking home a best of show award at ISTE.

# Structured pilots to support remote learning

## Access

Complete access to all tools for students and teachers through remote learning, or specific pilot periods.



## Technical Support

Dedicated support team, Practical help, First line, second line Deployment, post sales

## Resources

Extensive online resources to help students, teachers and parents download, understand and get the most from Texthelp tools.



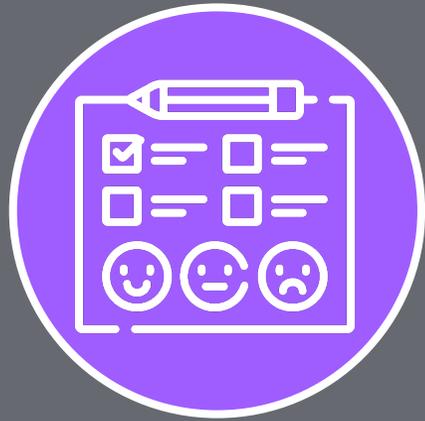
## Training

Online webinar training to cover getting started through advanced practice. Provided generically and for specific users..





Accessibility



Assessment



Feedback



Motivation



Parents



- ✓ 30 million + users
- ✓ Platform independent
- ✓ Founded in 1996
- ✓ 180 + employees
- ✓ Global reach
- ✓ Products span literacy, maths, science
- ✓ Inclusion & Accessibility Experts





Dr Barry McCollum | CEO  
**EventMap Solutions**

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# Smarter Approaches to Campus Planning & Management

Dr. Barry McCollum  
CEO



we provide elegant solutions to complex problems



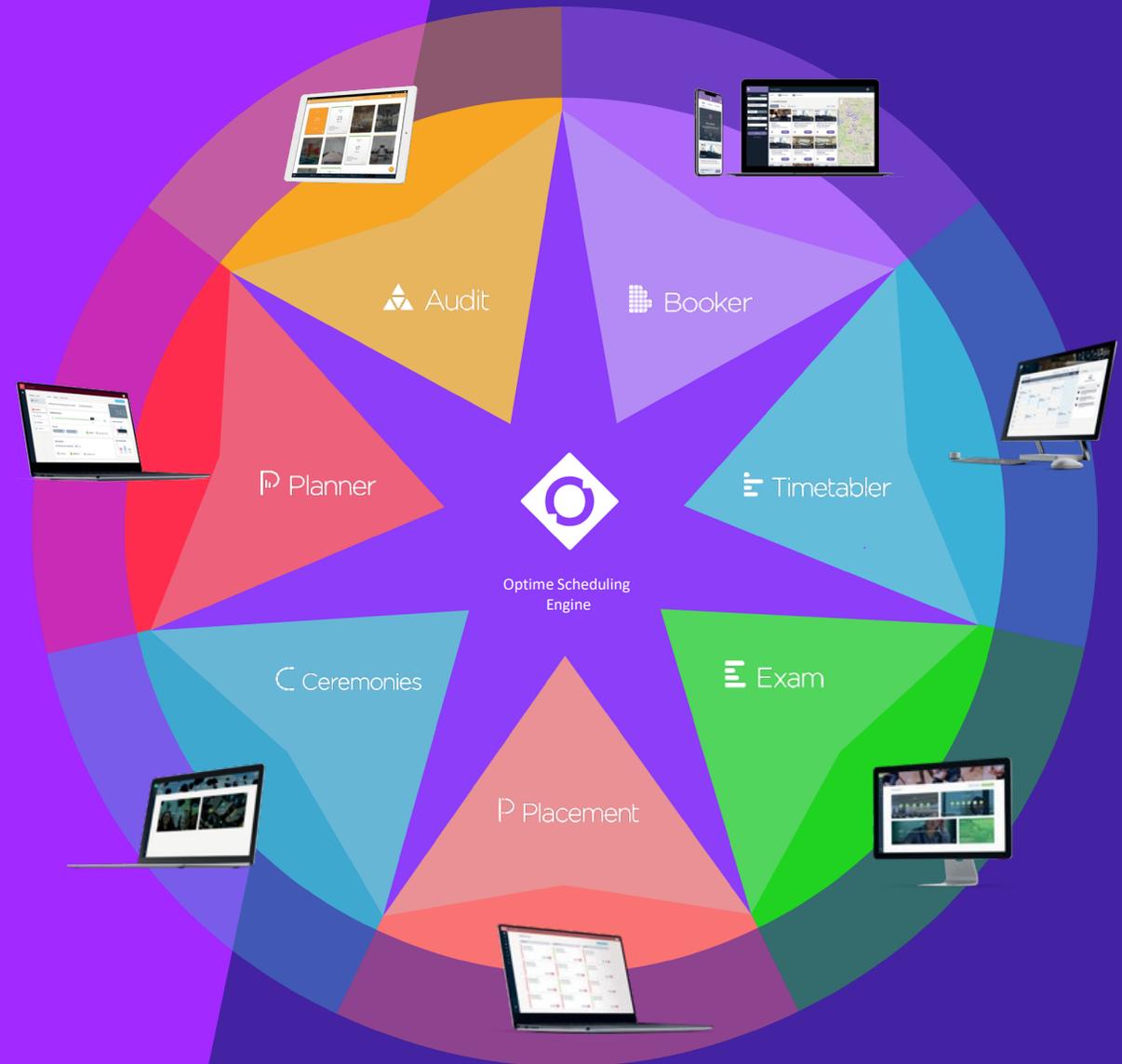
## What We Do

Our solutions facilitate enhanced educational environments for students and staff while making best use of resources through creation and deployment of optimised scheduling and planning  
**Powered by the revolutionary Optime Scheduling Engine.**



Optime offers a modular suite of use-anywhere cloud apps for activity, space and resource scheduling, booking, planning and management. Built on our industry-leading scheduling engine, it can;

- Inject powerful automation into your processes
- Streamline, optimise and schedule time and resource
- Deliver powerful insights around performance and stakeholder satisfaction
- Give you the tools to plan and modify your solution design in response to changing needs and expectations.



# Key Clients and Partners



# The Benefits of Working with EventMAP



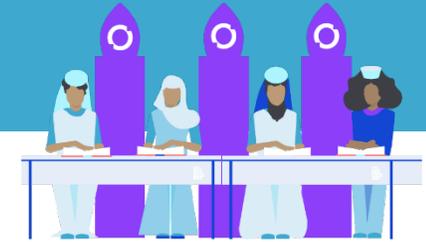
Provide better timetables



Provide greater flexibility for staff



Rationalise your resource usage



Understand impact and ensure social distancing



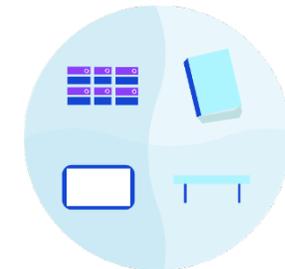
Remodel your space to create a better fit



Plan for changes to your curriculum



Increase your number of students

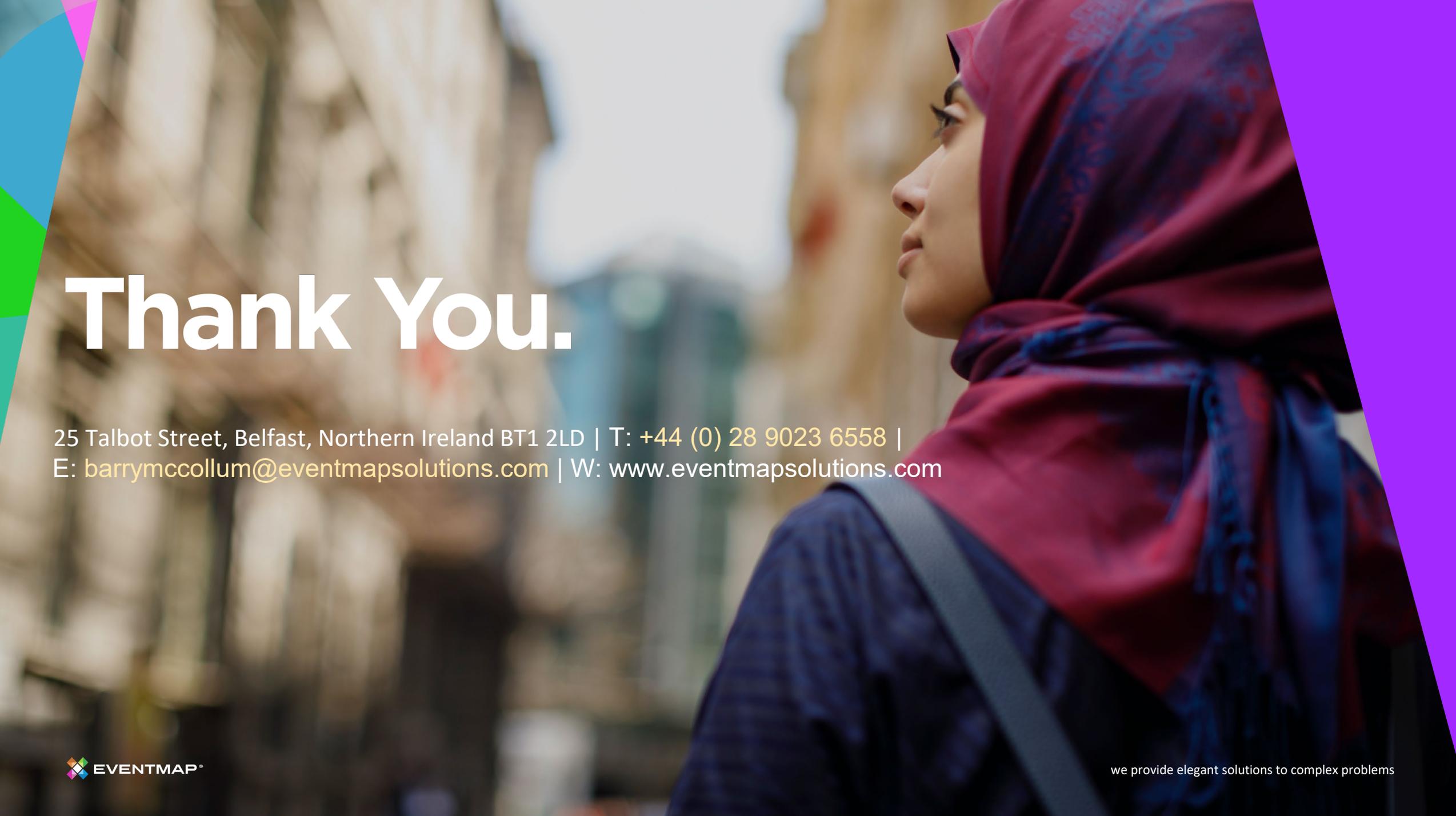


Reduce delivery costs

# The EventMAP Advantage

- Improve your strategic effectiveness through implementing effective operational change
- Automate, streamline and optimise
- Enhance the overall student and staff experience
- Make most effective use of resource
- Transform your planning capability



A woman wearing a red and blue patterned hijab is shown in profile, looking towards the left. She is wearing a dark blue top. The background is a blurred city street with buildings. The image is framed by a purple triangle on the right and a multi-colored triangle (blue, green, pink) on the top left.

# Thank You.

25 Talbot Street, Belfast, Northern Ireland BT1 2LD | T: +44 (0) 28 9023 6558 |  
E: [barrymccollum@eventmapsolutions.com](mailto:barrymccollum@eventmapsolutions.com) | W: [www.eventmapsolutions.com](http://www.eventmapsolutions.com)



Celia O'Hagan | Senior Lecturer in Education  
**Stranmillis University College**

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# OUR VISION



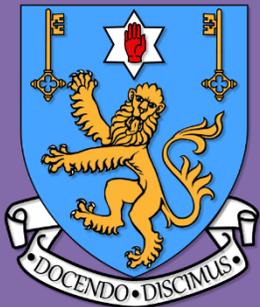
**Improving the lives of children and young globally.**

**CONNECTING  
GLOBALLY**

**SHAPING  
EDUCATION**

**UNLOCKING  
POTENTIAL**

**BUILDING  
FUTURES**



**70%**  
academic staff have  
doctorates

**1922**  
shaping education for  
almost 100 years



**72%**  
research deemed  
internationally relevant

**QAA**  
Quality Assurance  
Agency

**30**  
students from 30  
countries



**0.6**  
very low graduate  
unemployment

  
partnerships in UK,  
Europe, Asia and USA

**RUSSELL  
GROUP**

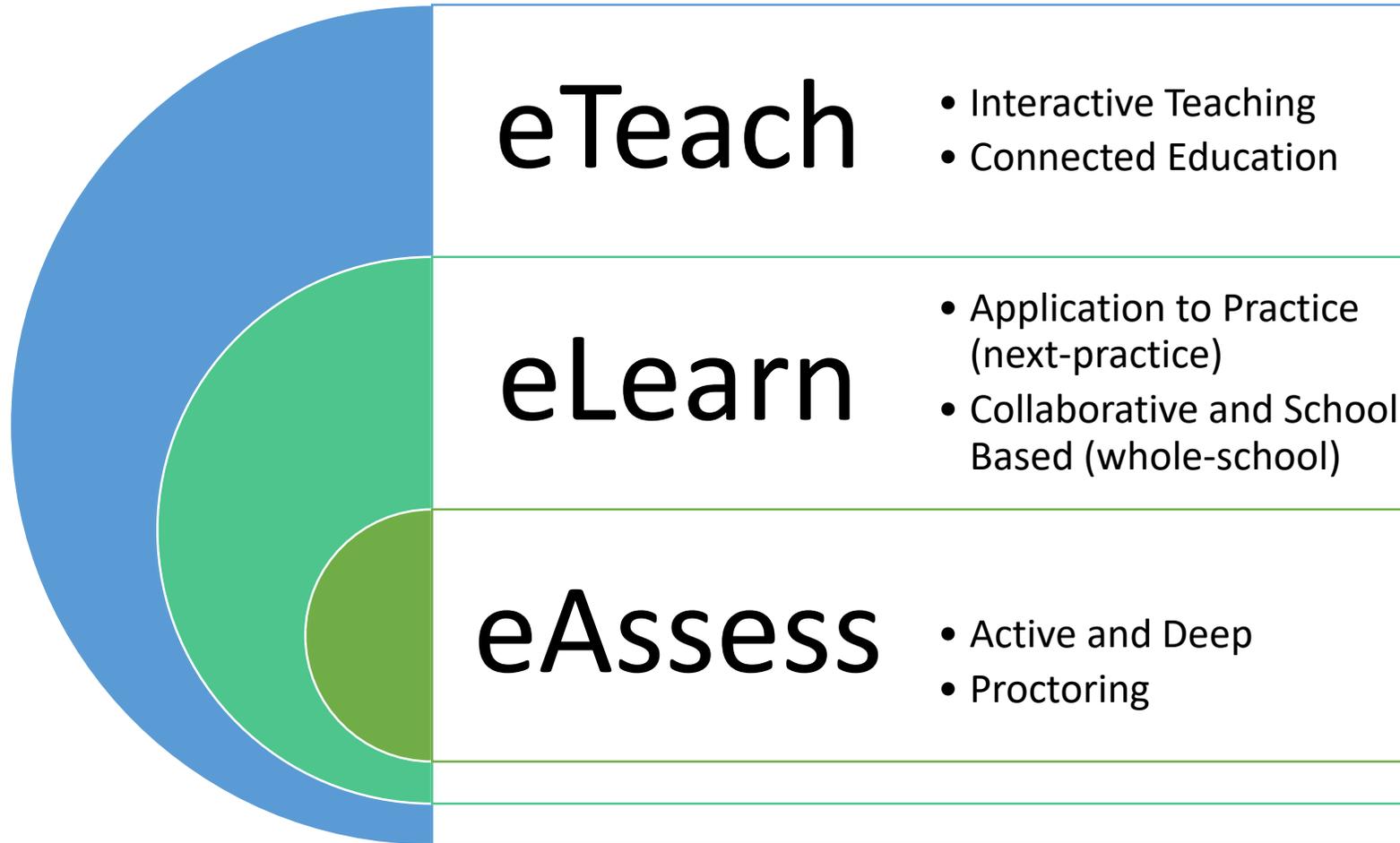
**No 1**  
for student  
satisfaction



# Online and Blended Learning

400 Teachers  
Studies  
Online during  
Pandemic

Model of  
Good to  
Best Practice:  
Master of  
Teaching – fully  
online



Canvas Platform

Synchronous  
and  
Asynchronous  
Teaching

Tutor-driven  
Over  
Machine Learning

CONNECTING

SHAPING

UNLOCKING

BUILDING

It has helped to alleviate many of my worries about working in a blended way in the future...

This has been an inspiring course that has been guided by research and best practice...

I feel enthused and encouraged with my ability to lead online learning with my class through the support on the course...

Online Ratings @  
Stranmillis

100% Excellent or Very Good  
Experience.

TEACHING  
Post-graduate  
NETWORK  
RESEARCH  
PARTNERSHIPS  
PROGRAMMES  
PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT  
STAFF  
STUDENTS  
PGCE  
UNDERGRADUATE  
RECRUITMENT

# Stranmillis

INCOMING GLOBALISATION OUTGOING  
SPORT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS PGCEI STUDY ABROAD EDUCATION  
EARLY YEARS EXCHANGE MOBILITY ERASMUS FEE INCOME HEALTH  
Masters



Michael Hicks | Regional Director, MENA  
**Firefly Learning**

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**How do you...**

**Manage parent communications?**

**Support effective teaching and learning?**

**Meet the different needs of your students?**

**Engage parents in the wider school story?**

**Firefly is the platform for  
parent engagement and learning continuity**



**firefly**

Every day, we connect schools and homes,  
extending school life beyond the classroom

# With Firefly...

**Students know  
what to do,  
access all  
resources  
online and  
submit work**

**Teachers save  
time managing  
classes,  
tracking and  
sharing  
students  
progress online**

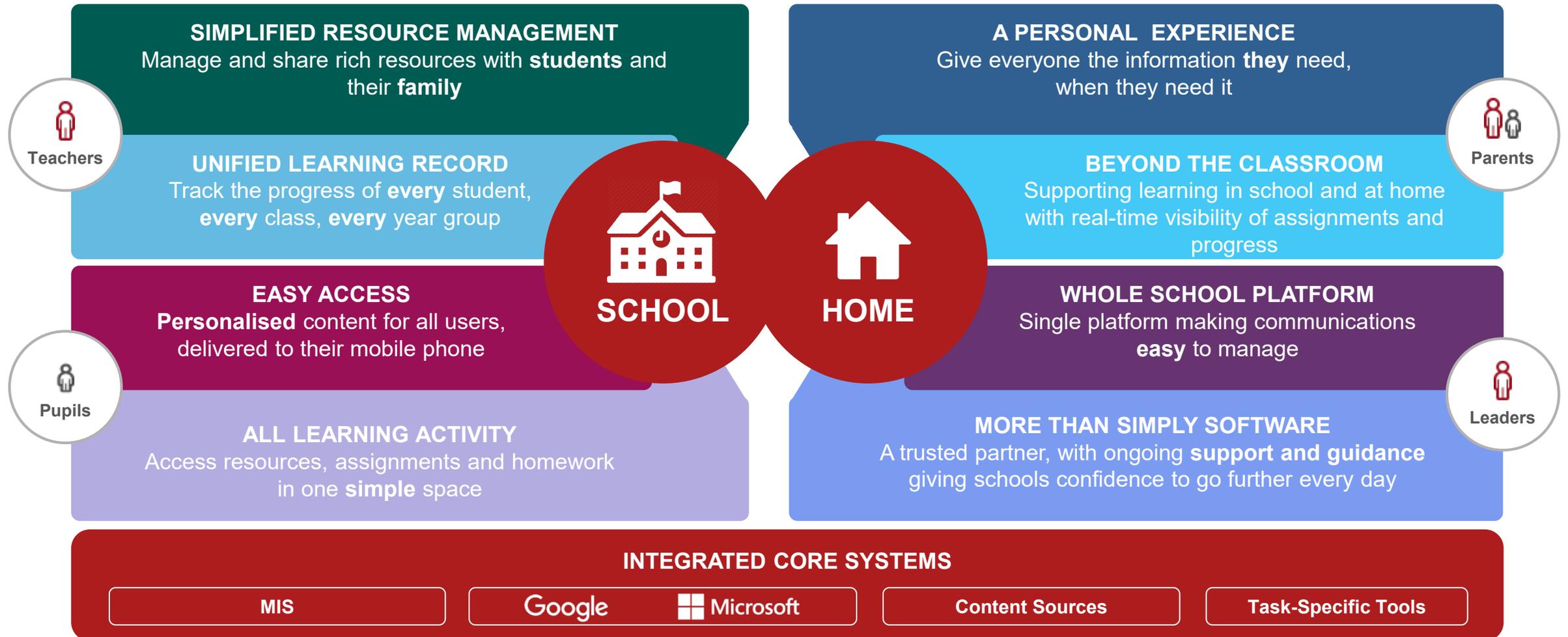
**School leaders  
communicate  
and engage  
with their  
community for  
greater impact**

**Parents interact  
with the school  
and gain  
insights to  
support their  
child's learning**

# A modern digital infrastructure for the entire school community



*A single, central hub, giving schools access to everything they need*



# In partnership with Google and Microsoft

*Access and integrate all your core systems and tools through a single central hub*

- Single Sign On
- Embed OneDrive files in Tasks & Resources
- Office 365 Calendar
- AD Link
- Teams meeting online classes in Tasks & Resources
- Immersive Reader
- OneDrive submissions to tasks
- Tasks from MS Teams to Firefly (Autumn '20)

Leaders



Enable school leaders to deliver insights-driven excellence

Teachers



Liberate teachers to guide and continuously adapt the learning journey



Parents



Engage parents with a 360 view of their child's learning experience

Students



Empower students to shape their own learning

- Single Sign On
- Embed G-Suite Docs in Tasks & Resources
- Google Calendar
- YouTube video embed
- Google Drive submissions to tasks
- Tasks from Google Classroom to Firefly (Autumn '20)



Microsoft Teams

29/07/2020

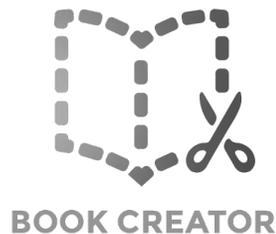
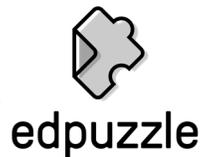
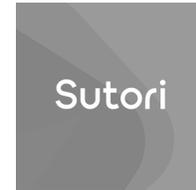


Google Classroom

# Working with your favourite tools



TEDEd



29/07/2020

# Firefly services



*More than a platform, a partnership for growth...*



## **Thought-leadership:**

- Webinars
- Blogs
- Benchmark

## **Practice:**

- Community
- Help Centre
- Road Shows



## **Team expertise:**

- Customer Success
- Onboarding & Learning
- Technical Support



29/07/2020

*... giving you the confidence to  
build*

# Firefly: by the numbers

70%

of the UK's  
top-performing  
schools use Firefly

1M

students, teachers and  
parents around the world use  
Firefly

40

countries with  
schools that have adopted  
Firefly

99.97%

Firefly platform uptime

96%

satisfaction with Firefly support,  
with 95% of all customer inquiries  
resolved in <40 minutes

98%

of Firefly's customer renew  
each year

# Firefly: The choice of leading schools worldwide

## United Kingdom



## Middle East & North Africa



## Asia



# Why Firefly?

An average of 97% of pupils logging on to our various systems each day this week. Amazing engagement and all thanks to Firefly. We couldn't have done it without you!

All Hallows Prep School, UK

Firefly has been a lifesaver with very positive feedback from Parents with regards to remote learning, but we couldn't have achieved what we have in the short space of time without the backup from your team

Doha College, Qatar

We've only had Firefly for one term and already it has made a huge impact to our school. Teachers have enjoyed adding lots of engaging content, students have loved their app and parents have been very pleased with the new opportunities that have been provided for communication. I can't imagine the school without Firefly now!

Bangkok International School,  
Thailand



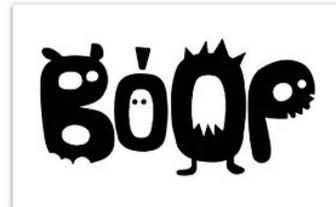
# **Michael Humphreys**

## Northern Ireland EdTech Collaborative Cluster

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# Northern Ireland

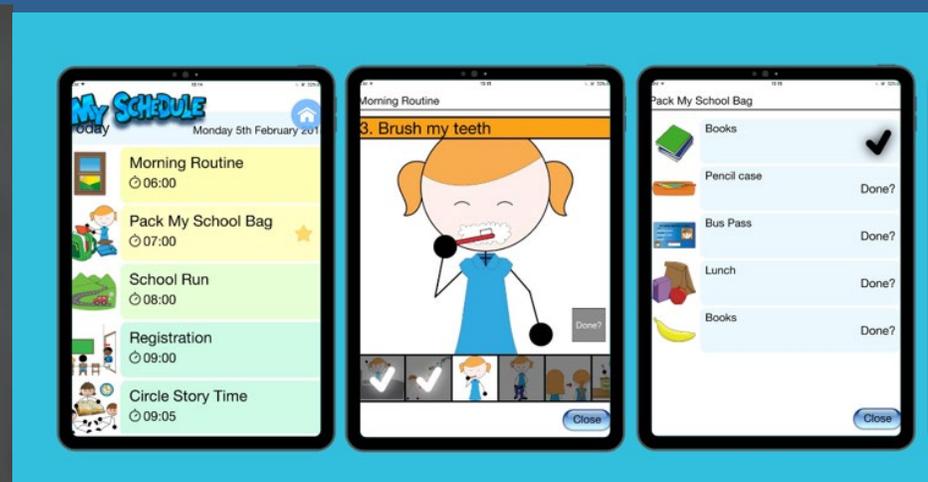
## EdTech Collaborative Cluster: Who are we?



- A single point of contact for customers
- Innovative award winning solutions
- Supports ranging from Nursery to University
- Strong emphasis on Special Needs Support
- Export focused

# Northern Ireland

## EdTech Collaborative Cluster: Award Winning



Northern Ireland

# EdTech Collaborative Cluster: Innovation

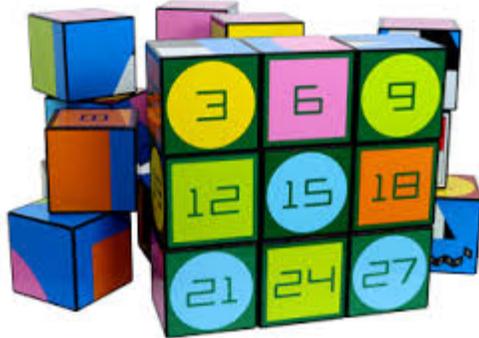
SENTIREAL 



“ChangeOVR is a Virtual Reality application which assists autistic pupils as they make transitions in schools”

Northern Ireland

# EdTech Collaborative Cluster: Proven Solutions



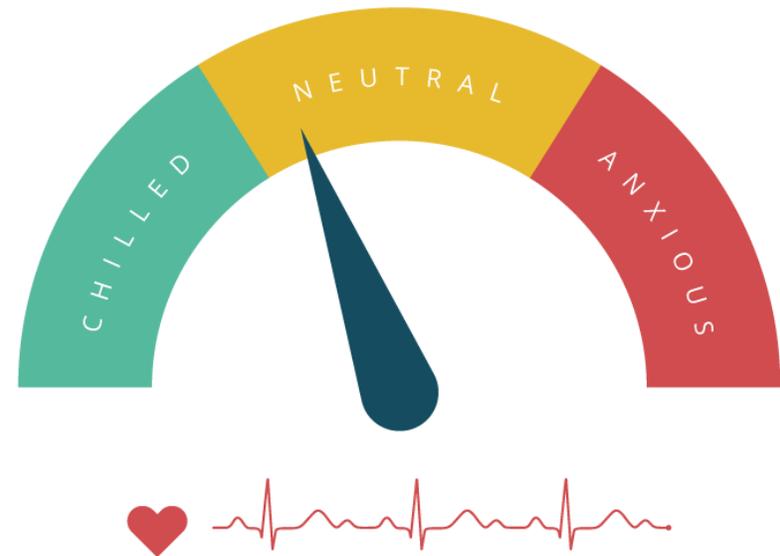
$\frac{1}{10}$	$\frac{1}{5}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{7}{20}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{5}$	$\frac{13}{20}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{9}{10}$
10%	20%	25%	35%	50%	60%	65%	75%	90%

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# EdTech Collaborative Cluster: Evidence Based Development

# TakeTen

The Science behind TakeTen



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# EdTech Collaborative Cluster: What can we offer?

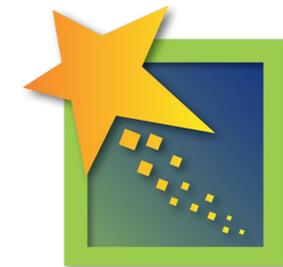
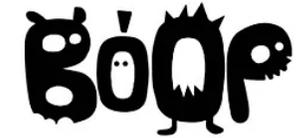
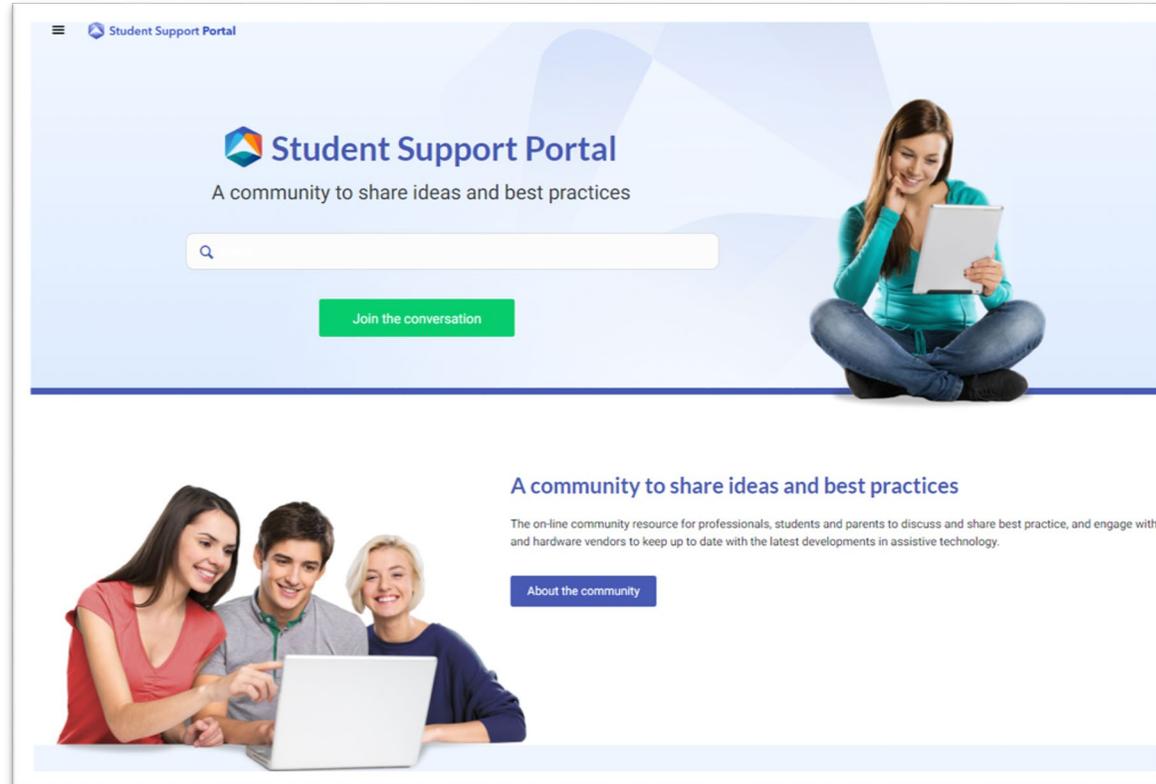


*Education Technology  
Platform*



Northern Ireland

# EdTech Collaborative Cluster: Current Project in Dubai



[www.studentsupportportal.com](http://www.studentsupportportal.com)

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EdTech Collaborative Cluster: **Open for Business!**

Actively seeking new opportunities  
for collaboration in the Middle East  
and Africa regions



# Questions & Discussion

## Transforming the learning & teaching landscape through Edtech

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For any further details, please contact the InvestNI Education Team:



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