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Adobe Unveils New Education Community to Provide Ongoing Support for Teachers

Adobe Education Exchange to provide invaluable advice and training for teachers in the UK and Ireland

LONDON, UK — 29 September, 2011 — Adobe today launches the Adobe Education Exchange, an online community for teachers in the UK and Ireland where they can seek ongoing support and advice from their peers, share learning resources and gain inspiration from one another around the use of digital tools in the classroom. The Adobe Education Exchange will help teachers experiencing the withdrawal of local authority support or school budget cuts, by providing free teaching and learning resources, such as lesson plans and even curriculum outlines to support the OCR ICT Nationals.

In the past six months, the Government has made its digital agenda for schools clear: from integrating smartphone app-design into lessons, to pledges to overhaul the IT curriculum to ensure the subject meets the growing needs of businesses. It is clear there will be more pressure on teachers than ever before to understand how to use digital in classes to facilitate learning. However, research recently conducted by Adobe reveals that more than a third (35%) of teachers feel they need more training and support in order to be able to use technology effectively in classes.

The Adobe Education Exchange will host a range of free, peer-reviewed teaching and learning resources, developed by Adobe Education Leaders – UK-based teachers already integrating technology in the classroom with great success who also use the Exchange themselves to find inspiration for creative teaching activities. If visiting the Adobe Education Exchange today for example, a Science teacher will find information on how to use website development software to help make the subject more engaging for students. Likewise, a History teacher will find useful tips on using film editing software to make school trips more memorable and help to improve students' understanding of a particular topic.

Liz Wilkins, Senior Marketing Manager, Education at Adobe UK said: "Digital skills are increasingly in demand in the workplace, so it's more important than ever that teachers are able to integrate digital tools into the classroom to better prepare today's learners for the world of work.

"Whilst it's great that technology is being recognised by the Government as a key driver of the skills needed for our young people to succeed in their future careers, the reality is that the resources aren't always available to fund the necessary training and guidance teachers need. The Adobe Education Exchange will help to fill that void by providing a platform

where educators can meet their peers, and support and inspire one another to develop new ways of teaching these digital skills and integrating technology into the classroom."

For more information or to sign up to the Adobe Education Exchange, teachers should visit: http://www.adobe.com/go/aeeuk. There are also materials available for higher education practitioners.

Hear from <u>Liz Wilkins</u> about the launch of the Adobe Education Exchange and views on the resource from <u>Saiqa Liaqat</u> Head of ICT and Deputy Head at Highlands School in Enfield.

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