



# ePortfolio Features and Functionality Checklist

If you're looking for some help scoping out the requirements and must-have features for your new ePortfolio platform then this is absolutely the guide for you.





# About PebblePad

Since 2004 we've been building software that helps universities support, guide and develop students – from induction to graduation and beyond.

Our comprehensive ePortfolio, workbook and assessment platform helps learners to plan for, record and reflect on learning experiences, and collect, curate, share and showcase evidence of their evolving capabilities.

*"PebblePad portfolios stand out as little jewels of creativity and, most importantly, they can be designed by any user, without the need for specialised skills."*

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH



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## Why ePortfolio?

Recognised as a High-impact Practice\*, the use of eportfolios aligns with student-centred learning and authentic assessment principles. Learners can collect evidence of learning and achievement and build powerful personal narratives that display their personal development and emerging professional identity. Sharing and showcasing portfolios may help the author show the extent of their learning, demonstrate competence, gain accreditation and/or gain employment in a chosen field.

## Why PebblePad?

It's not just an ePortfolio... it's PebblePad!

Millions of portfolios have been created in PebblePad, yet they form only part of a rich tapestry of reflections, plans, experiences, blogs and activity records that users create to chart the steps along their learning journeys.

Extending the powerful features of an ePortfolio with sophisticated tools for supporting feedback and assessment, PebblePad supports diverse teaching and learning processes. Flexible, customisable and course-agnostic, PebblePad offers technology to scaffold learning as a process, build in meaningful reflection, and allow learners to record and evidence their development over their entire learning journey.

### Teaching and learning benefits

- Flexible, versatile and customisable for use in any discipline or enterprise-wide initiative.
- Facilitates structured learning.
- Supports programme-wide and authentic assessment.
- Supports employability and future-readiness.
- Supports life-long and life-wide learning.
- Simplifies external assessment.
- Use at any scale, in any context.
- Integrates easily with VLE/LMS to be a core and complementary component of your digital learning ecosystem.

\* Watson, C. E., Kuh, G. D., Rhodes, T., Penny Light, T., and Chen, H. L. (2016). Editorial: ePortfolios – The Eleventh High Impact Practice. International Journal of ePortfolio, Vol. 6, No. 2.

# Benefits

by teaching and learning themes



## **AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT**

Authentic assessment approaches are situated in a real-world context, concerned with application of knowledge and skills, and aligned with the expectations of industry and employers. PebblePad helps surface the process of learning, making it visible to multiple stakeholders, enabling feedback and support to be given by 'assessors' on and off campus.



## **FLEXIBLE LEARNING DESIGN**

While systems like the VLE/LMS are terrific for providing information and content, universities also need to support learner-centred and learning-centred pedagogies, including reflective practice, authentic assessment, group projects, flipped classroom, co-creation and other experiential learning experiences.



## **BELONGING, WELLBEING AND SUCCESS**

Nurturing engaged and happy students is a sure-fire way to foster learner success and bolster retention rates. PebblePad offers universities a unique set of tools to roll out large-scale initiatives which provide real-time insight on student progress and well-being, to provide scaffolding and support in a more personal way at scale.



## **EMPLOYABLE AND FUTURE READY**

In a competitive graduate job market, students need an edge in documenting and articulating capabilities, competence, soft skills and graduate attributes. Help students to develop a professional mindset through the portfolio process, drawing on their accomplishments and developing a 'narrative of distinctiveness'.



## **PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY AND CAPABILITY**

Being able to articulate and demonstrate key skills needed for career and life success from critical thinking to digital literacy, discipline knowledge and creativity is crucial to building employability. PebblePad helps students to identify and evidence their developing skills and aptitudes; supporting their journey to becoming a professional or practitioner.



**Read on to discover the power of PebblePad** – highlights of our unique functionality that supports your teaching, learning and assessment ambitions



## PRE-ENROLMENT

## YEAR 1

## YEAR 2

## PLACEMENT

## YEAR 3 / 4

## POST GRADUATION

### AUTHENTIC ASSESSMENT & FEEDBACK



Weekly reflective journal

Student-led assessment

Program /synoptic assessment

Project portfolio

Programmatic assessment

Group project

Dissertation process portfolio

Essay plan

Self and peer review

Lab experiments

External assessment

Capstone portfolio

### FLEXIBLE LEARNING DESIGN



Flipped classroom

Challenge

Placement prep

Placement portfolio

Problem-based learning

SLICCs

Final year project

Group project

Simulations

Active blended learning

### BELONGING, WELLBEING & SUCCESS



Pre-arrival

Welcome

Equity and wellbeing

Equitable alternatives

Personal academic tutoring

Welcome

Application

First year experience

Campus life projects

Work ready mentoring

### EMPLOYABLE & FUTURE READY



Foundational skills

Career self-management

Employability framework

Application portfolio

Digital capability

Graduate attributes

Transitional portfolio

Employer-led projects

Research skills framework

### PROFESSIONAL IDENTITY AND CAPABILITY



Foundational values

Developing and evidencing professional capabilities

Continuing PD

Career planning

Developing professional mindset

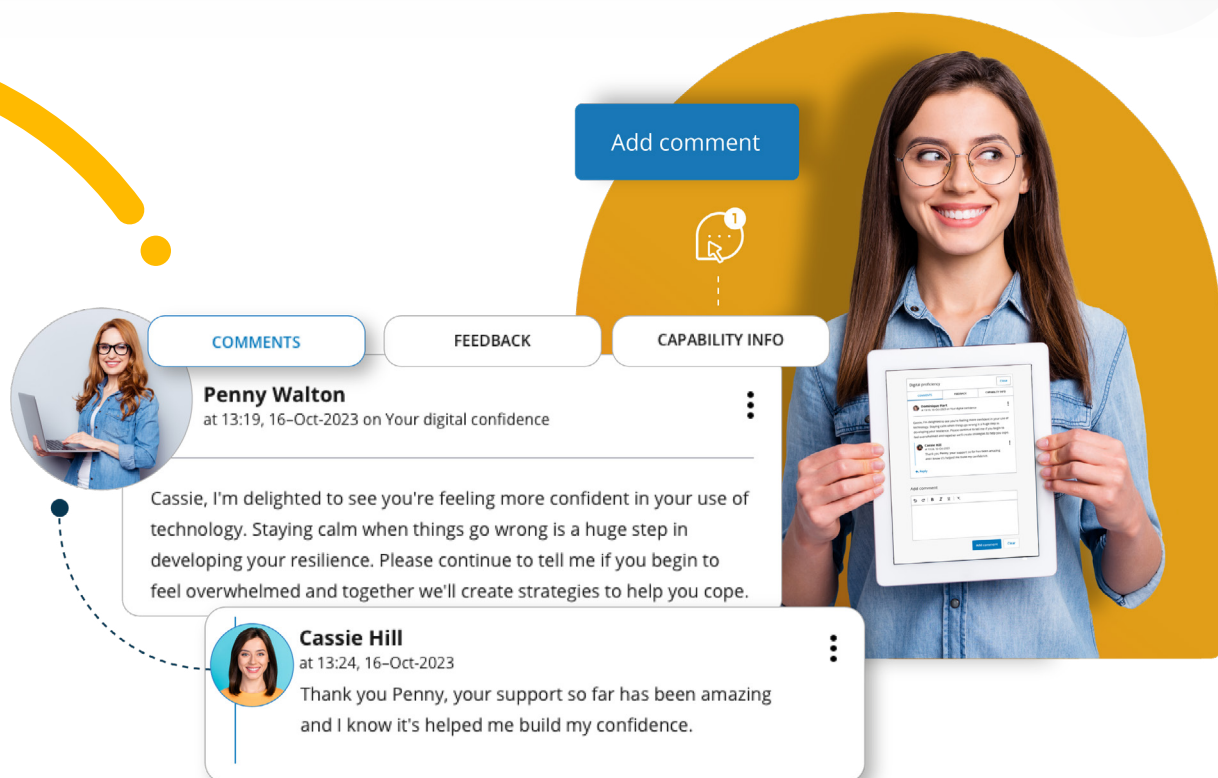
Professional accreditation

Fellowship portfolio

# Using PebblePad to support wellbeing, belonging and success

Monitoring the engagement and well-being of large student cohorts is no easy feat. PebblePad offers universities a unique set of tools to roll out large-scale initiatives which provide real-time insight on student progress and well-being.

PebblePad promotes connection and continuity across an entire student learning journey which may span a diverse range of academic and personal endeavours, on and off-campus.



The image shows a woman with long brown hair and glasses, wearing a blue denim shirt, holding a white tablet. The tablet screen displays the PebblePad interface, which includes a header with 'Add comment', a navigation bar with 'COMMENTS', 'FEEDBACK', and 'CAPABILITY INFO', and a comment thread. The comment thread shows a comment from Penny Walton at 13:19 on 16-Oct-2023, followed by a reply from Cassie Hill at 13:24 on 16-Oct-2023. The background is a solid yellow color with a large white circle behind the woman.

**Add comment**

**COMMENTS** **FEEDBACK** **CAPABILITY INFO**

**Penny Walton**  
at 13:19, 16-Oct-2023 on Your digital confidence

Cassie, I'm delighted to see you're feeling more confident in your use of technology. Staying calm when things go wrong is a huge step in developing your resilience. Please continue to tell me if you begin to feel overwhelmed and together we'll create strategies to help you cope.

**Cassie Hill**  
at 13:24, 16-Oct-2023

Thank you Penny, your support so far has been amazing and I know it's helped me build my confidence.

*"[with] the ability to track live student engagement and completion, possible performance or wellbeing risks can also be highlighted at an earlier stage."*

**UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM**  
Senior Leader, Higher Education Futures Institute

# Supporting wellbeing, belonging and success

## Platform tools

| BENEFIT                 | FEATURE                                 | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reflection              | Templates                               | Provides prompts and frameworks for supporting and enhancing reflection in any context and on any experience.                 |
| Scaffolding learning    | Templates                               | Provides out-of-the-box templates for recording generic events such as meetings, action plans, achievements and abilities.    |
| Self-assessment         | Rubrics, rating scales and capabilities | Enables learners to engage with criteria, self-assess, and record a history of development.                                   |
| Assessment for learning | Formative and dialogic feedback         | Supports viewing live work-in-development and allows feedback conversations between learners and educators.                   |
| Tracking engagement     | Reporting                               | Enables reports to be run on submission status, workbook progress, cohort-view of student responses and checklist completion. |
| Showcasing success      | Pages and portfolios                    | Create purposeful, evidenced portfolios and share with a variety of audiences.                                                |
| Privacy                 | Sharing settings                        | Puts users in control of their assets, defaulting to private and secure to provide a safe 'making sense' space.               |

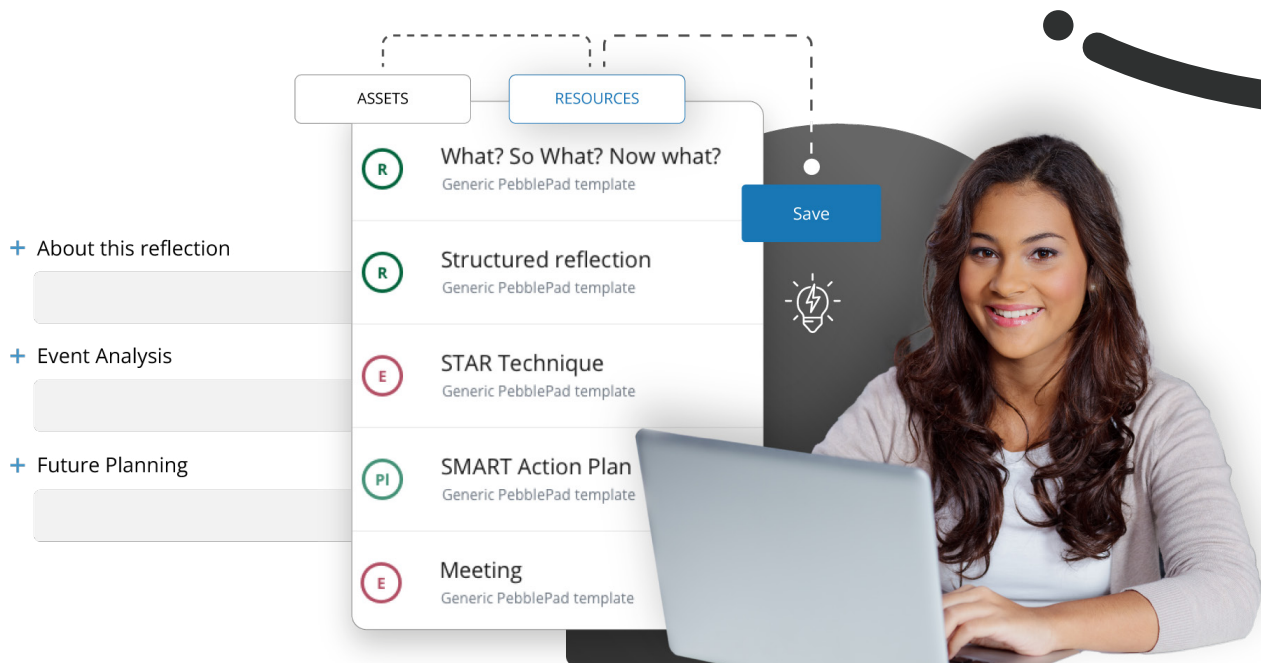
## Platform capability

| BENEFIT              | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Life-wide learning   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enables learners to make connections across the range of their learning experiences.</li><li>• Supports recognition of skills developed in informal or non-institutional settings.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                |
| Connectedness        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Create customised workbooks to support learners through independent, transitional or off-campus experiences: research projects, induction, placement, tutoring and mentoring and more.</li><li>• Live access to student work allows you to monitor engagement and progress wherever the learning is taking place.</li></ul> |
| Personal development | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Supports reflection on and planning for skills, experiences, practice and performance a powerful means of helping learners to engage deeply with their learning experiences.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                      |

# Using PebblePad to support student-centred learning

A student-centred approach aims to engage learners as partners in the curriculum and in their assessment, allowing them to take ownership and control of their own learning.

Student-centredness is typically active, collaborative and experiential, with a focus on what learners can do rather than just what they know, and aligns with authentic assessment approaches.



*"PebblePad is where our students and faculty make connections across their lived experiences, and surface evidence of their learning, through their reflections and portfolios."*

**PORTLAND STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Program Director and Instructor

# Supporting student-centred learning

## Platform tools

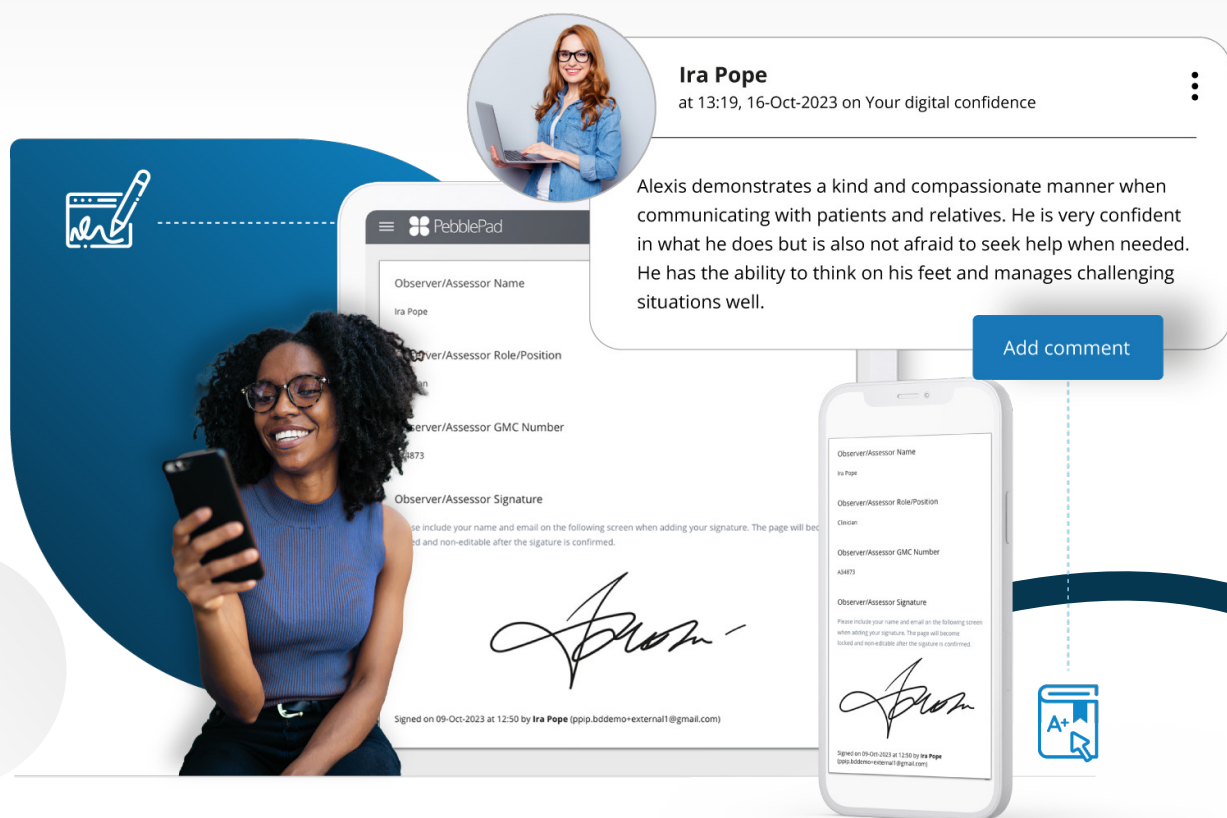
| BENEFIT                         | FEATURE                                 | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |  |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Supported learning              | Templates                               | Allows users to make use of generic, out-of-the-box templates as well as personalised frameworks created by others to support learning and development.                                                                                                                                |  |
| Scaffolding learning            | Template builder                        | Enables all users (educators and learners) to create their own templates to support the recording of any activity or experience, or to scaffold learning.                                                                                                                              |  |
| Organisation and categorisation | Tagging                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows for multiple categories (tags) to be attached to any piece of evidence or assets.</li> <li>Aids in searching, aggregating in collections, and connecting evidence to key competencies, capabilities, experiences, and topics.</li> </ul> |  |
| Evidencing learning             | Capabilities                            | Allows the recording and linking of multiple forms of evidence. A piece of evidence may be used against multiple skills/capabilities; each skill/capability can be evidenced by multiple items.                                                                                        |  |
| Self-assessment                 | Rubrics, rating scales and capabilities | Allows learners to rate and re-rate their development over time, with access to a complete history of their progress.                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| Assessment for learning         | Feedback                                | Makes learning visible to assessors. Watch in real-time as work develops and provide timely and formative feedback at multiple points across a task.                                                                                                                                   |  |
| Personalised portfolios         | Portfolio builder                       | Enables users to create narrative accounts of development and achievement with links to evidence.                                                                                                                                                                                      |  |
| Access – any time, any where    | PebblePocket app                        | Allows offline recording of evidence and experience when an internet connection is not available, with syncing capability once online.                                                                                                                                                 |  |

## Platform capability

| BENEFIT                                   | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| Not just for students                     | Supports adult learners from all contexts equally well – from foundation students through to higher degree, professional learners, and staff.                                                                                                 |  |
| A private and personal space for learning | Provides a dedicated learner-owned space with tools for learners to use for their own individual goal-oriented activities. Puts users in control of their assets, defaulting to private and secure.                                           |  |
| Making sense of and connecting learning   | Offers a holistic view of learning. The system promotes the re-use of assets to connect evidence to a variety of key competencies, experiences, topics, time-frames, or any criteria the learner chooses.                                     |  |
| Beyond the curriculum                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add structure to independent learning activities, projects and research.</li> <li>Record and support engagement with optional or discretionary activities (co-curricular/extra-curricular).</li> </ul> |  |

# Using PebblePad to support authentic assessment and feedback

PebblePad supports authentic assessment in absolutely any learning context, both on and off campus, and can be used to design assessment *for* learning, assessment *as* learning and assessment *of* learning. Educators can design frameworks which allow learners to regularly self-assess their development, add evidence to support their evolving capabilities, and remain connected to those supporting their learning through every step of their evolving journey.



**Ira Pope**  
at 13:19, 16-Oct-2023 on Your digital confidence

Alexis demonstrates a kind and compassionate manner when communicating with patients and relatives. He is very confident in what he does but is also not afraid to seek help when needed. He has the ability to think on his feet and manages challenging situations well.

Add comment

Observer/Assessor Name  
Ira Pope

Observer/Assessor Role/Position  
Clinician

Observer/Assessor GMC Number  
A34873

Observer/Assessor Signature  
Please include your name and email on the following screen when adding your signature. The page will become locked and non-editable after the signature is confirmed.

Signed on 09-Oct-2023 at 12:50 by Ira Pope (ppip.bddemo+external1@gmail.com)

*"Using templates developed in PebblePocket, students undertake clinical assessments in real time, ensuring assessments are contextualised and integrated into clinical learning."*

**MURDOCH UNIVERSITY**

Associate Professor and Academic Chair, Bachelor of Nursing

# Supporting authentic assessment and feedback

see also p21 *Tools to support feedback and assessment for learning*,  
and p22 *Tools to manage assessment and grading*

## Platform tools

| BENEFIT                                     | FEATURE                                           | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Support offline or field experiences</b> | PebblePocket app                                  | Allows offline recording of evidence and experience when an internet connection is not available, with syncing capability once online.                                                                                                                                                                       |  |
| <b>Access for workplace assessors</b>       | Externals                                         | People external to the university who need to participate in the feedback, assessment or validation process can be given access to Workspaces or to individual submissions without having a Pebble+ account.                                                                                                 |  |
| <b>Workplace sign-off</b>                   | Digital signatures                                | Enables digital signatures to be included on templates and for work to be digitally signed-off by external assessors.                                                                                                                                                                                        |  |
| <b>Self-assessment</b>                      | Rubrics, rating scales and capabilities           | Enables learners to engage with criteria, self-assess, and record a history of development.                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <b>Peer review</b>                          | Assessment permissions                            | Allows a range of peer review activities from individual and informal, to formalised and structured cohort-wide engagement.                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <b>Formative and staged assessment</b>      | Live links to submissions and pausing assignments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports viewing live work-in-development and allows feedback conversations between learners and educators.</li> <li>• The submission view can be paused to enable milestone or specific point-in-time feedback and feed forward to support development.</li> </ul> |  |
| <b>Scaffolding feedback for assessors</b>   | Rubrics, feedback templates, assessor help        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create dedicated feedback rubrics and templates for specific tasks.</li> <li>• Insert customised instructions for assessors at the point of marking.</li> </ul>                                                                                                     |  |

**More features... security, groups, LMS / VLE integration, grading**  
Please refer to p22 - *Tools to manage assessment and grading*

## Platform capability

| BENEFIT                        | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Assessment for learning</b> | PebblePad enables ongoing, dialogic feedback that allows learners to understand what they need to do to improve their task response (before the final assessment) and gives educators a window into how the learners are developing. |  |
| <b>Assessment as learning</b>  | PebblePad's reflective focus supports activities where the learner learns through the process of building the assessment; the product is tangible evidence of the learning that has taken place.                                     |  |
| <b>Assessment of learning</b>  | Tools to support all facets of formal summative assessment and grading.                                                                                                                                                              |  |
| <b>Programmatic assessment</b> | PebblePad enables longitudinal assessment as cohorts and workspaces do not need to be tied to LMS/VLE courses. Work may be shared to multiple workspaces and revisited over time.                                                    |  |

# Using PebblePad to support evidencing skills and capabilities

Students need to capture evidence of learning and skill development that occurs during internships, placements, and other off-campus contexts, as well as in real-world situations that offer opportunities for learning. PebblePad enables industry partners and external supervisors to readily access student work to provide assessment and feedback. Students can add evidence on-the-go and are prompted to provide context and justification for each piece of evidence.



*"PebblePad offers the flexibility to easily create competency frameworks that are truly fit for purpose and the offline capability adds real value for our students."*

**UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL**

School of Medicine, Senior Leader (Director of TEL)

# Evidencing skills and capabilities

## Platform tools

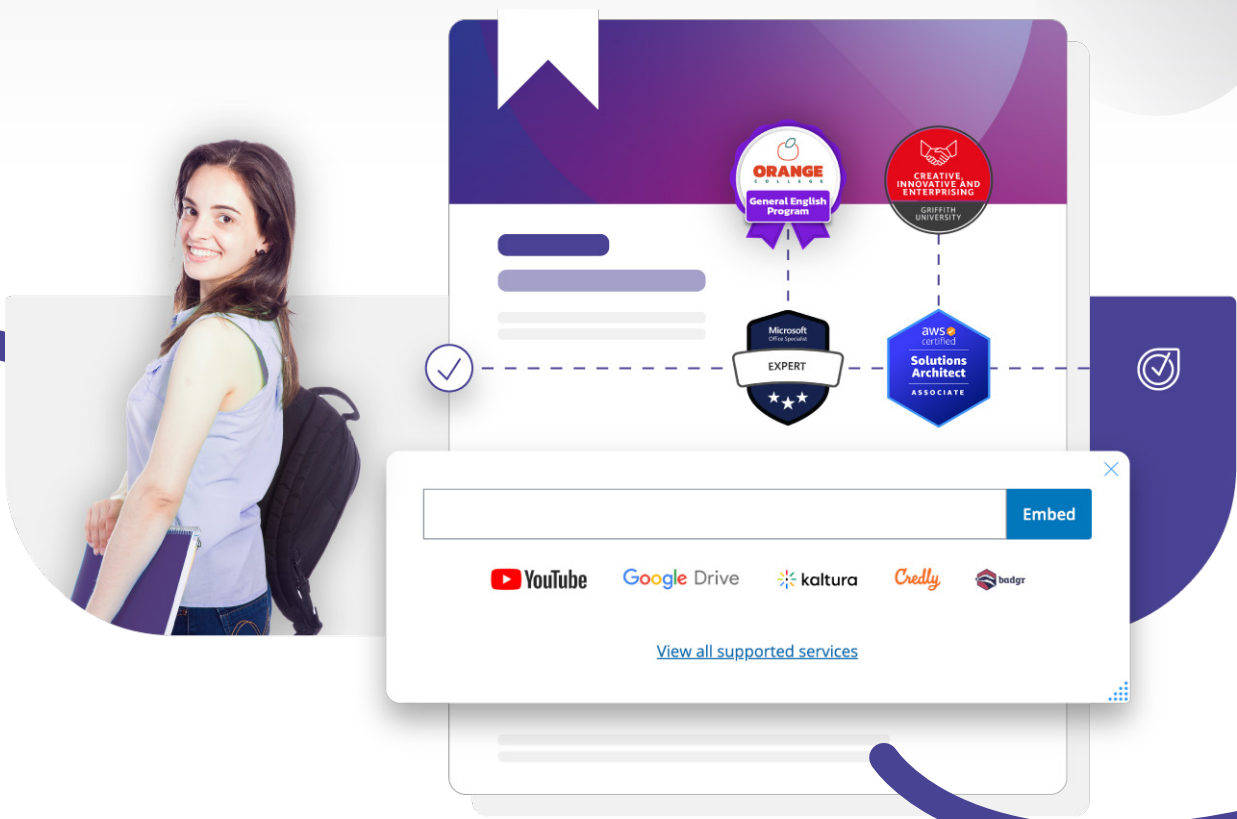
| BENEFIT                                | FEATURE                                 | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Organisation                           | Tagging                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supports learners to organise and engage more deeply with their learning through tagging of assets.</li> <li>Connect evidence to key competencies, experiences, topics, timeframes, or any criteria the learner chooses.</li> </ul>                           |
| Scaffolding                            | Template and workbook builders          | Allows authors to create specific templates to support skill profiles, competency frameworks, and self-audits.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Self-assessment                        | Rating scales and capabilities          | Prompt self-assessment and record development over time, with the capacity to add evidence and justify ratings change.                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Mapping                                | Workbooks, mapping and capabilities     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mappable workbooks help learners structure and compile their evidence against competencies, standards or attributes.</li> <li>Learners can map any asset against pre-set skills/capabilities provided for them in a workbook with mapping enabled.</li> </ul> |
| Record and display micro-credentials   | Badges                                  | An embed block allows display of earned badges and micro-credentials, from a range of badge providers, directly into portfolios or workbook responses.                                                                                                                                               |
| Secure sign-off                        | Digital signatures and PebblePocket app | Enables digital signatures to be included on templates and for work to be digitally signed-off by external assessors on a mobile device.                                                                                                                                                             |
| Access for workplace assessors         | Externals                               | People external to the university who need to participate in the feedback, assessment or validation process can be given access to cohort or individual submissions without having a full account.                                                                                                   |
| Assessment                             | Capabilities verification               | Add approvals to each individual element to indicate whether the evidence meets requirements.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Showcasing development and achievement | Workbooks and portfolios                | Any completed workbook can be embedded within a portfolio as evidence of completed standards or competency frameworks.                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Access and continuity                  | PebblePocket App                        | Allows learners to record experiences and capture evidence – anytime, anywhere, even offline.                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

## Platform capability

| BENEFIT                                 | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Supports university-wide initiatives    | PebblePad can be used for co- and extra-curricular activities for recording soft skills and graduate attributes across the entire learning journey. |
| Accreditation and external verification | Accreditation bodies can be provided with external access to a workspace dedicated to external checking and verification of submissions.            |

# Using PebblePad to support careers, employability and future-readiness

In an ever-changing and ever more competitive graduate job market, it's clear that the development of graduate attributes like creativity, entrepreneurialism and cultural awareness will become increasingly important in preparing students for lifelong career success. PebblePad is being rolled out at scale in universities across the globe to help students capitalise on every learning experience on their journey to becoming future-ready graduates.



*"PebblePad is a fabulous tool for students to start thinking about professional self – it helps them to build a professional identity because it's purposeful."*

**UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY**  
Associate Professor and Program Leader

# Supporting careers, employability and future-readiness

## Platform tools

| BENEFIT           | FEATURE                    | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reflection        | Templates and blogs        | Templates and blogs provide prompts for supporting and enhancing reflection in any context and on any experience.                                                                                                                                                             |
| Access            | PebblePocket app           | Allows learners to record experiences and capture evidence – anytime, anywhere, even offline.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Organisation      | Tagging                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supports learners to organise and engage more deeply with their learning through tagging of assets</li> <li>• Connect evidence to key competencies, experiences, topics, timeframes, or any criteria the learner chooses.</li> </ul> |
| Mapping           | Workbooks and capabilities | Mappable workbooks help learners structure and compile their evidence against competencies, standards or capabilities.                                                                                                                                                        |
| Contextualisation | Capabilities               | Prompts user justification in support of self-rating and evidence provided against skills and capabilities.                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Multi-purpose     | Portfolios                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build capstone, accreditation, employment and showcase portfolios.</li> <li>• Easily re-use pages across different portfolios and tailor for specific audiences – no need to build from scratch each time.</li> </ul>                |
| Display badges    | Embed block                | Allows display of earned badges and micro-credentials, from a range of badge providers, directly into portfolios or workbook responses.                                                                                                                                       |
| Publishing        | Sharing                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allows sharing of assets with internal and external (non-account-holding) users.</li> <li>• Allows assets to be published to the web and shared via url.</li> </ul>                                                                  |
| Currency          | Live updates               | Allows assets to be instantly updated without the need to re-share.                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

## Platform capability

| BENEFIT                        | DESCRIPTION                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| University-wide initiatives    | PebblePad can be used for co- and extra-curricular activities such as employability programmes and recording graduate attributes across the entire learning journey.                                |
| Supports experiential learning | With a live window into work-in-progress and the ability to include external assessors or mentors, learning through real-world experience becomes visible even while learners are away from campus. |
| Life-wide learning             | Supports recognition of skills developed in informal or non-institutional settings, and allows learners to make connections across the range of their learning experiences.                         |



# Integrations

**PebblePad is 1EdTech certified for Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI)** to allow integration with other learning systems.

The traditional course structure of the LMS/VLE can present significant challenges when it comes to realising the ambitions of student-centred learning, programmatic assessment, and helping students evidence their evolving capabilities. PebblePad can bridge those gaps.

Our integration capability and SSO (single-sign-on) helps educators, learners and administrators move seamlessly between course content and experiential learning, reflective and portfolio activities.

## Integration benefits

With Learning Tools Interoperability 1.3 you can integrate authentic assessment and portfolio tools directly into your LMS/VLE, and gain access to a wide-range of benefits, including:

- Greater security with single sign-on.
- Easier administration with synchronisation of members and roles.
- Quickly select PebblePad resources within your LMS/VLE.
- Deep Linking from your course page directly to PebblePad templates and workbooks.
- Automatically share grades back to your LMS/VLE
- Send submissions to Turnitin.

\*Supports a host of authentication methods: LDAP, Active Directory, SSL, SURFconext Internal authentication database, Shibboleth, OAuth.

\*Out-of-the-box integration with other LMS/VLE: Canvas, D2L/Brightspace, Blackboard, Moodle, Sakai.

\*Dedicated app for iOS and Android.



## Additional interoperability for learners

PebblePad offers out-of-the-box integration with popular file stores, as well as badging and learning platforms, making it easy for organisations to put PebblePad at the heart of their learning culture and offering individual users greater flexibility.



# Security, accessibility and access

## Security

At PebblePad we pride ourselves on our data security. We have been working hard over the last few years to achieve excellence in the data security sector by undertaking rigorous certifications such as **ISO 27001**, **Cyber Essentials** and **Cyber Essentials Plus**. Following initial certification, we continue to improve and expand our data security approach, with our in-house Information Security Officer leading the charge.

## Accessibility

PebblePad has always been designed to meet the needs of the widest possible range of users including those who may require assistance. PebblePad is built to support those who use assistive technologies and inclusive of alternative approaches to system use over a standard keyboard and mouse approach.

Our commitment to providing the best possible accessibility support is through an ongoing process of improvement and refinement, always adhering to the most current publication of the WCAG guidelines. We actively work with many of our customers to enhance PebblePad's usability and WCAG 2.1 specific improvements feature in every major system update.

## Access

PebblePad is built to be 'mobile first' and our responsive UI supports working in PebblePad on any device. For those occasions when a connection to wifi is lacking, our dedicated app, PebblePocket, allows on-the-go reflection, recording of evidence, digital sign-off and more:

- Create simple records of your learning using post, reflection, activity or competency templates.
- Create records of your learning using custom templates added to the app by your institution.
- Add photos or videos.
- Save, edit or remove your mobile Assets on the device.
- Send your Assets to your Pebble+ Asset Store when back online.

# The anatomy of the PebblePad learning journey platform

## Pebble+

### THE LEARNING SPACE

Students make use of inbuilt tools and tailored resources to capitalise on each and every step of their learning journey.



## Atlas

### THE ASSESSMENT SPACE

Educators make use of intuitive design tools to scaffold the learning journey and support authentic assessment.

CREATE & DISTRIBUTE  
LEARNING DESIGNS

OBSERVE & SUPPORT  
STUDENTS

ASSESS & FEEDBACK  
SUBMISSIONS

ANALYSE & REPORT  
ACTIVITY & ACHIEVEMENT

INTEGRATION WITH EXTERNAL PLATFORMS

## PebblePocket

### THE PEBBLEPAD APP

ONLINE  
OFFLINE  
ANYTIME  
ANYWHERE



Read on to discover the power of PebblePad – highlights of our unique functionality that supports your Teaching, Learning and Assessment Ambitions

# How PebblePad supports phases of the learning design, experience and assessment process

## Learning design

Intuitive template and workbook builders allow educators to design and share frameworks for learning. From a single, reusable research template to a comprehensive internship workbook, the possibilities are endless.

## Planning and preparing

PebblePad's default action plans, or customised templates and workbooks prompt the student to ask, "Where am I today? Where do I want to get to? And what are the steps (and the support needed) to get there?"

## Recording and reflecting

Learners are prompted to reflect on the impact of an activity, how it connects to other experiences, and how it may inform the journey ahead. This approach ensures learners become increasingly capable of articulating their abilities.

## Collecting and curating

While PebblePad is typically a university-led initiative, learners benefit from their own personal Asset Store, which acts as a purposeful digital repository of learning experiences, projects, and activities. Learners can capture these learning experiences in any environment – even offline through our mobile app.

## Sharing and showcasing

Easy-to-use tools allow students to bring together evidence of their learning journey in beautiful portfolios to help them showcase their talents, achievements and experiences for review, assessment, or career application.

## Assessment and feedback

In-built tools allow educators to monitor engagement, provide formative and summative feedback and assessment to help students shape their journey, and to report on and analyse the impact of the learning initiatives.



### PROMOTES LEARNING DESIGN THAT IS...

- Scaffolded
- Incremental
- Iterative
- Dialogic
- Collaborative
- Visible

### PROMOTES LEARNING THAT IS...

- Developmental
- Authentic
- Purposeful
- Personal
- Evidenced
- Reflective

Read on to discover more of our uniquely powerful features and tools to support learning, teaching and assessment

# Tools focus: pages and portfolios

**Pages and portfolios** enable learners to create beautifully designed and richly evidenced narratives of development and achievement, for any number of audiences and purposes. Portfolios can look as unique as the person telling the story, and to suit the particular story being told.

## Benefits and uses for pages and portfolios

Create personal digital presentations that convey an evidenced story of learning, experience or achievement to a chosen audience:

- Task, project, process and placement portfolios.
- Capstone, accreditation, employment and showcase portfolios.
- Extra-curricular and personal portfolios.

## Files and media

- |                                                                                                                    |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Allows images, audio and video to be embedded within portfolios.                                                 |  |
| • Allows users to link to and embed media evidence from third party services e.g. YouTube, Credly, GoogleDocs etc. |  |
| • Supports the compression of media evidence uploaded to PebblePad to allow seamless playback on any device.       |  |

## Building pages and portfolios

- |                                                                                                                                              |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Allows creation of many different portfolios, for a range of purposes from assessment to job applications, and for a variety of audiences. |  |
| • Allows users to fully customise the design and structure of their portfolios.                                                              |  |
| • Allows users to embed portfolios within portfolios to create multi-layered designs.                                                        |  |
| • Allows users to embed completed templates or workbooks within portfolios to create multiple layers of evidence.                            |  |
| • Supports the embedding of blogs, activity logs and collections within portfolios.                                                          |  |
| • Users can make secure hyperlinks within their narrative text to selected evidence/assets.                                                  |  |
| • Individual pages can be reused across different portfolios.                                                                                |  |
| • The simple drag 'n' drop interface makes building a portfolio straightforward – allowing the creator to focus on the content.              |  |
| • Allows users to copy and reuse the designs of others (including educators).                                                                |  |
| • Allows users to add, delete, reorder or re-use elsewhere pages at any time.                                                                |  |
| • Automatically updates portfolios when linked items are edited.                                                                             |  |

## Authoring, ownership and collaboration

- |                                                                                 |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Allows collaboration on any asset for multiple authorship / group portfolios. |  |
| • Allows sharing permissions to be rescinded at any time.                       |  |
| • Ongoing access with a free alumni account.                                    |  |

## Files and media

- |                                                                                                                              |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Allows sharing of assets with internal and external (non-account-holding) users.                                           |  |
| • Allows assets to be published to the web and shared via url.                                                               |  |
| • Allows any asset being shared/published to be done so with a range of viewer permissions including commenting and copying. |  |
| • Allows users to set time limits on access to shared items or change/rescind permissions.                                   |  |

# Tools focus: templates and workbooks

From a reusable reflective template to an entire placement workbook, build resources to scaffold learning and support authentic assessment in any context. Easily share custom-created frameworks with learners, then track progress and observe interactions in real-time to offer timely support and feedback.

## Benefits and uses for templates and workbooks

- Scaffold any learning activity.
- Support and enhance reflection.
- Create specific templates to support skill profiles, competency frameworks, and self-audits.
- Create workbooks to scaffold any task, project, or process – from essay structure and writing, to placement, to capstone project.
- Mappable templates and workbooks help learners structure and compile their evidence against competencies, standards or capabilities.

## Creating templates and workbooks

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Provides out-of-the-box templates for recording generic events such as meetings, action plans, achievements and abilities, and includes a range of reflection templates based on commonly-used reflective models. |  |
| • Allows all users to create highly individualised resources (templates and workbooks) for scaffolding development, or for personal purposes.                                                                       |  |
| • Allows template creators to cascade tags to help end-users organise and collate their assets.                                                                                                                     |  |
| • Allows images, audio and video to be embedded within pages as content for learners, or as a response by learners.                                                                                                 |  |
| • Allows a combination of content/context and interactive activities to be included on any pages of the resource.                                                                                                   |  |
| • Provides placeholders for a learner's Portfolio Page, Blog/Journal, Activity Log and Collection to be added to a workbook.                                                                                        |  |
| • Allows templates and workbook resources to be shared with individual learners, cohorts or across whole institutions.                                                                                              |  |
| • Ability to link directly to PebblePad resources from other systems (LMS/VLE).                                                                                                                                     |  |
| • Enables resources to be updated or added to in real-time even after they have been shared with learners changes are instantly visible to learners.                                                                |  |
| • Workbook pages can be hidden and released upon verification of a prior page or by date.                                                                                                                           |  |

## Using templates and workbooks

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| • Creators can provide opportunities for learners to personalise the workbook with placeholder pages and permission to change the banners. |  |
| • Allows users to link to and embed media evidence from over 50 third party services e.g. YouTube, Vimeo, Credly, Canva etc.               |  |
| • Allows resources to be shared with collaboration permissions allowing multiple creators / Allows multiple authors for group responses.   |  |
| • Allows images, audio and video to be embedded within pages as content for learners, or as a response by learners.                        |  |

## Assessment

|                                                                                                                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Template and workbook responses can be set to auto-submit to a workspace.                                                          |  |
| • Allows a user's progress to be tracked through an entire workbook.                                                                 |  |
| • Allows selected fields on a page to be completed only by assessors, along with the ability to create dedicated feedback templates. |  |
| • Enables digital signatures to be included on templates and for work to be digitally signed-off by external assessors.              |  |

# Tools focus: blogs, collections and activity logs

PebblePad includes additional tools for helping learners to collect and curate evidence of learning and achievement over time. While blogs tell a chronological narrative, collections and activity logs aggregate assets based on criteria, with automation possible.

## Benefits and uses for blogs, collections and activity logs

|                                                                                                                                                                |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • <b>Blogs</b> are ideal for chronological records – following a project, placement or work-integrated-learning experience.                                    |  |
| • <b>Collections</b> bring together assets based on certain criteria, such as graduate attributes or professional standards tags.                              |  |
| • <b>Activity logs</b> additionally count hours or points assigned to each task against a target. Great for recording continuing professional development etc. |  |

## Creating blogs, collections and activity logs

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Users can create unlimited blog posts and unlimited blogs containing images, audio and video.                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| • The blog feature contains the same tools as the portfolio builder to support well-designed posts that can also be re-used and inserted as portfolio pages.                                                                                     |  |
| • Allows users to link to and embed media evidence from third party services e.g. YouTube, Credly, GoogleDocs etc.                                                                                                                               |  |
| • Supports the compression of media evidence uploaded to PebblePad to allow seamless playback on any device.                                                                                                                                     |  |
| • Provides granular permissions allowing blogs to be shared and worked on collaboratively, along with settings to keep posts private.                                                                                                            |  |
| • Users can attach multiple categories (tags) to any piece of evidence or asset.                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| • Tagging of assets helps learners to organise and engage more deeply with their learning through the connection of evidence to key competencies, experiences, topics, timeframes, or any criteria the learner chooses.                          |  |
| • Collections can automatically collect tagged assets as they are created. This enables the aggregation of learning assets based on specific criteria e.g. collate all learning assets tagged as 'Study Abroad' created before a nominated date. |  |
| • Activity logs can automatically calculate total project/activity effort and gap to target.                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| • Supports the creation of multiple collections and activity logs to record activity on different projects and for different purposes.                                                                                                           |  |

## Sharing and assessment

|                                                                                                                                        |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Blogs, collections and activity logs can be used as pages within a portfolio.                                                        |  |
| • Workbook creators can provide placeholder pages for learners to insert their own activity log, collection or blog within a workbook. |  |
| • Workbook placeholder pages for collections and activity logs enable educators to pre-set criteria.                                   |  |
| • A blog, collection or activity log can be shared directly to an assignment for assessment or feedback.                               |  |

# Tools focus: feedback and assessment for learning

PebblePad's assessment engine, ATLAS, supports authentic assessment in absolutely any learning context, both on and off-campus. Educators can design frameworks which allow learners to regularly self-assess their development, add evidence to support their evolving capabilities, and remain connected to those supporting their learning through every step of their evolving journey.

## Self-assessment

|                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • <b>Reflection and action plan templates</b> provide opportunities for metacognition and future learning goals.                                                             |  |
| • <b>Rubrics, rating scales and capabilities</b> enable learners to engage with criteria, self-assess, and record a history of development, with evidence and justification. |  |

## Peer review

|                                                                                                                               |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Allows a range of peer review activities from individual and informal, to formalised and structured cohort-wide engagement. |  |
| • <b>Peer review workspaces and customisable permissions</b> enable learners to have access to a suite of feedback tools.     |  |
| • <b>Sets</b> enable learners to be put into review groups.                                                                   |  |

## Assessor feedback

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • In addition to manual submission, assets can be set to automatically share for assessment, feedback and grading over a period of development.                                                                                              |  |
| • Live updates allow assets to be instantly updated without requiring re-sharing until a deadline is reached.                                                                                                                                |  |
| • An assignment can be paused at any time. Pausing an assignment takes a snapshot of the submitted work at the time of pausing, for adding formative feedback. While paused, any updates to the work will not be reflected on the workspace. |  |
| • Dialogic feedback tools encourage learners to engage directly with feedback received.                                                                                                                                                      |  |
| • Audio and video feedback may be attached to submissions.                                                                                                                                                                                   |  |
| • Assessor fields and feedback added to specific page elements enable specific points to be addressed.                                                                                                                                       |  |
| • Sharing with external assessors is simple and universities have complete oversight (and insight) in real time to monitor achievement and engagement, even when learners are on placement or in a workplace.                                |  |
| • Digital signatures may be included on templates and for work to be digitally signed-off on a mobile device by external assessors.                                                                                                          |  |

## Summative assessment

|                                                                                                                               |  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • Scorecards allow for different components of an asset to be assessed independently. Components may have weightings applied. |  |
| • Grades can be added in numerical or text format.                                                                            |  |
| • Grades can be passed back to the LMS/VLE.                                                                                   |  |

# Tools focus: managing assessment and grading

PebblePad's assessment engine, ATLAS, has powerful tools for managing assessment and feedback on student work. It allows you to review outcomes at a course or institutional level and analyse and report on impact and success.

## Managing cohorts and submissions

|                                                                                                                                                          |  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • ATLAS provides organisation-controlled spaces (workspaces) for the submission of work and enables managers to distribute relevant resources for users. |  |
| • Groups of learners can be organised into smaller sets. Assessors will see work from only the sets to which they are assigned.                          |  |
| • Allows peer review groups to be easily created and managed.                                                                                            |  |
| • External examiners and other stakeholders may be given access to view and/or assess work on nominated workspaces.                                      |  |
| • Reporting on submission status allows follow-up of learners who have yet to submit.                                                                    |  |
| • Submissions may be copied or moved to other workspaces.                                                                                                |  |

## Managing assignments, deadlines and grades

|                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • A range of deadlines can be set, with a differentiation between when work must be submitted and when edits will no longer be visible, to allow visibility of developing work. |  |
| • Extensions can be applied for individuals, enabling different extension dates for different members for the same assignment.                                                  |  |
| • Archive assessed work, including comments, feedback and grades for quality assurance purposes.                                                                                |  |

## Managing feedback and assessment

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| • ATLAS supports peer-review, blind-review and moderation processes.                                                                                                                                                                     |  |
| • To scaffold feedback, assessors can make use of rubrics and feedback templates, which can be created by a lead assessor and provided for all assessors. You can Insert customised instructions for assessors at the point of marking.  |  |
| • A comment bank enables assessors to add standardised feedback comments to submissions, quickly and easily.                                                                                                                             |  |
| • Assessor fields allows selected fields in a workbook or template to be completed only by assessors (customisable by role). Feedback is time and date-stamped with the assessor's name recorded.                                        |  |
| • Provides approval statements for three levels of approval e.g. to support second marking, moderation and external approval.                                                                                                            |  |
| • Enables digital signatures to be included on templates and for work to be digitally signed-off by external assessors.                                                                                                                  |  |
| • Feedback may be released immediately or held and released later by a lead assessor. Feedback may be released individually or en masse. Feedback comments and grades may also be released separately even when marked at the same time. |  |
| • Upon verification or digital signature, some assets may be locked to prevent further editing.                                                                                                                                          |  |



# Features of a PebblePad partnership

Working with you to ensure your PebblePad implementation is a success.

As a customer-focused company, deeply embedded in the higher education community for over 18 years, every PebblePad employee is involved in supporting your use of PebblePad. From product engineers and software designers to our learning consultants and support agents – every member of our business is committed to developing and supporting innovative technology that helps to improve student outcomes. And of course, we also have a team specifically dedicated to helping to make your use of PebblePad a success.

Our Global Customer Success team is tasked with ensuring customer satisfaction and success is achieved and maintained across the customer journey and partnership lifecycle. With Customer Success Managers, Learning Consultants, Learning Designers, Trainers, and an experienced Customer Support team, the Global Customer Success team has your implementation, onboarding and ongoing support needs covered.

## **You can have confidence in our team to support you, and confidence in a system that is:**

- Regularly updated.
- Designed by qualified teachers and learning designers.
- Capable of supporting implementations of 100,000 + users.
- Offered as a fully hosted and maintained service with 99.9% uptime.
- Supported and guided by an international user community.
- Supported through national and regional organisational training workshops and user conferences / special interest groups.
- Supported by comprehensive online help, telephone and email support.
- Able to offer free alumni accounts to graduating students.



## Notes

[illegible]





## Get in touch

If you'd like to talk to us about supporting your institution's teaching, learning and assessment goals, here are some of the ways you can get in touch.

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