

Helane Fittell
Early Childhood Lecturer
Logan Campus
University Drive,
Meadowbrook 4131
07 3382 1520
h.fittell@griffith.edu.au

11th February, 2010

To Whom it May Concern
Re: **Folios International**

The work of David Harris and Folios International was first brought to my attention in 2008 by a faculty colleague who recommended ClassMon as a useful tool in early childhood pre-service teacher education. After a preliminary investigation, I attended a presentation/demonstration by David and was immediately impressed by the open-ended, flexible design of this documentation tool. Even more, I could see how David was receptive to the expressed specific needs and beliefs of teachers and worked with his software designers to respond quickly with practical, enduring and user friendly solutions.

As a documentation tool ClassMon has many advantages for teachers across a range of early years education and care settings as it can be configured with the relevant curriculum rubric for the learning context. I have attended a number of David's presentations of ClassMon for both in-service and pre-service teachers over a 12 month period and have noted each time how new features have been added to the tool to expand it's applications, while maintaining it's open-ended nature and time saving benefits for users. Folios International developed, and made available to Griffith University, a version of ClassMon for the Queensland education context which was included in the choice of methods for documenting young children's learning and development in assessment tasks. Students who used ClassMon commented positively on how the tool enabled them to organise and align observation data with curriculum requirements and efficiently generate reports, portfolios and other documents which were suitable for both parents and education professionals.

The documentation of individual learning and development in early years settings in comprehensive and communicable ways is a high priority in the National Early Years Framework. Developing strong partnerships and clear communication with parents and carers is regarded as a key factor in supporting young children as learners. Class Mon is the only tool I have encountered which equally supports teachers in these priority areas.

In working with David Harris and Folios International I have found them to be receptive and responsive to the needs of teachers in the facilitation of quality early childhood documentation. Their demonstrated ability to provide practical, user friendly software solutions sets them apart from other software designers and products I have encountered as both an early childhood teacher and lecturer. I am therefore very confident in my endorsement of David Harris and Folios International.

If you would like further information about my experience with Folios International, please contact me at h.fittell@griffith.edu.au.

Sincerely,

Helane Fittell