>> Elizabeth: I'm Elizabeth Cathcart, I'm doing my third year with a degree at the minute, integrated children young people's practice and I work part-time in a nursery, I've been doing that for the past 15 years.

>> Debbie: My name is Debbie Williams, I have been doing the Edge Hill top up for integrated children and young people's practice. This is my third year but my first year as an Edge Hill University student.

>> Elizabeth: The course is a year-long, it runs September to May...it fits around my family it helps in the school holidays. There are weeks where we're not in university, we could do it as distance student erm, so if we can't make it to a lesson, we can still participate.

So we can access Blackboard whenever we need to all of the PowerPoints and there's lots of links on there that help us with our work. There's Collaborate which helps us to have a discussion live...I have used it with my tutor and a couple of you of the girls at the same time, it's been really useful getting feedback on work that I wanted checking over or, asking questions, it's in real time you're not wasting four emails.

>> Debbie: As I am fulltime...full-time work myself and in education, it's very useful to me to be able to go home after school hours and weekends and be able to us Collaborate to speak to my tutor.

>> Elizabeth: Toni gives us time that she'll be available on Collaborate so, if we have any issues that we want...that we want to raise with Toni, we know that we can go on between those hours and she, she comes straight on there, you can see who is in the room erm...It's also useful if you if you go on there and somebody else is in there, because sometimes they're asking the same questions that you want to know erm, so it's really good as a discussion board.

Before the class started to use Collaborate we had a lesson on how to access it what we could do on it, importing pictures and documents erm, how to use the
chat, erm. Following that it's been really simple to access and to use, it's literally the click of a button.

So the, the face-to-face benefits of Collaborate erm, when you're speaking to someone you've got, you've got gestures, and body language, and even expressions, which helps you feel at ease if you asking a question that you think might be a little bit silly, erm. So, it's reassuring to be able to see somebody on the other the other side of the screen, erm. I think sometimes people don't really want to...but it is, it's really valuable.

>>Debbie: Very, very important to me because if I had to stick to university times or, term time only, wouldn't have that important, that contact with her to make sure that I am on the right direction to completing my degree.

>>Elizabeth: If I come across something and it stops me my tracks, and I need a little bit of reassurance, or I need a question answering. If I email, it might take a few hours, it might take an hour or so before I get a reply about, which is understandable.

If I know that my tutor's on Collaborate then I can access her there, straightaway, I have my answer and I can get to straight back into my study.

So we've, the students have been able to upload parts of their essay to, to send over to Toni erm, so she can look our work and give us some advice at the same, at the same time as you're looking at it erm, so again it, it's like a face-to-face tutorial where you would ask, well what does this mean, or should I put this here and, so you look at the same thing at the same time.

Without Collaborate, I think that, I would be able to complete the course, but it would make it a lot more difficult erm, I'd have to travel into University more often, if I wanted the face to face tutorial erm...rather than being able to access the same experience that home.

>>Debbie: We've all got different needs erm, some...it's the access, there is so many different ways to access Collaborate. It's not just a phone call audio, it's not just a video, wait, send it, receive it, it's real time.

>>Elizabeth: I do have though, some friends that came to Edge Hill at the same time as us from our foundation degree, who hasn't, they've not had, they've never accessed Collaborate. So, I also think that the importance of letting the students know the value of it.

End.
I'm Elizabeth Cathcart I'm doing my third year with a degree at the minutes integrated children young people's practice and I work part-time in a nursery I've been doing that for the past 15 years. My name is Debbie Williams I have been doing the Edge Hill top up for integrated children and young people's practice this is my third year but my first year as an Edge Hill University student. The course is a year-long it runs September to May...it fits around my family it helps in the school, there are weeks where
we're not in university we could do it

as distance student erm, so if we can't

make it to a lesson we can still participate. So we can access Blackboard whenever we need to all of the PowerPoints and there's lots of links on there that help us with our work. There's Collaborate which helps us to have a discussion live...I have used it with my tutor and a couple of you of the girls at the same time it's been really useful getting feedback on work that I wanted checking over or asking questions, it's in real time you're not wasting four emails. As I am
fulltime...full-time work myself

and in education it's very useful for me
to be able to go home after school hours

and weekends and be able to use

Collaborate to speak to May tutor.

Toni gives us time that she'll be available on Collaborate so if we have any issues that we want...that we want to raise with Toni we know that we can go on between those hours and she should comes straight on there you can see who is in the room erm...It's also useful if you if you go on and someboy else is in there because sometimes they're asking the
same questions that you want to know erm,

so it's really good as a discussion board.

Before the class started

to use Collaborate we had a lesson on

how to access it what we could do on

it, importing pictures and documents

erm, how to use the chat and following

that it's been really simple to access

and to use, it's literally the click of a button.

So the, the face-to-face benefits

of Collaborate erm, when you're speaking

to someone you've got, you've got

gestures and body language and even

expressions which helps you feel at

ease if you asking a question that you
think might be a little bit silly erm.

So, it's reassuring to be able to see somebody on the other side of the screen and I think sometimes people don't really want to...but it is really valuable. Very important to me because if I had to stick to university times or term time only I wouldn't have that contact with her to make sure that I am on the right direction for completing my degree. If I come across something and it stops me my track and I need a little bit of reassurance or I need a question answering, if I email, it might take a few
hours it might take an hour or so before I get a reply about which is understandable. If I know that my tutor's on Collaborate then I can access her their, straightaway I have my answer and I can get to straight back into my study. So we've, the students have been able to upload parts of their essay to send over to Toni and so she can look our work and give us some advice at the same time as you are looking at it and so again it's like a face-to-face tutorial where you would ask, well what does this mean or should I
put this here and so you look at the

same thing at the same time.

Without Collaborate I think that I would be able
to complete the course, but it would make
it a lot more difficult and I'd have to
travel into University more often if I
wanted to face to face tutorial and
rather than being able to access the
same experience that home. We've all got
different needs and some it's the access
there is so many different ways to
access Collaborate it's not just a phone
call audio, it's not just a video wait,
send it, receive it it's real time.

I do have though, some friends that came to
Edge Hill at the same time as us from our foundation degree who hasn't, they've not had, they've never accessed Collaborate.

So I also think that the importance of letting the students know the value of it.