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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Sustainability from the Start
Free Online Course on Sustainable Education
Co-funded by the European Union,
Featuring Children's Activities,
Launches for Early Childhood Educators this September



[City, Date] – Kristianstad University, OMEP Europe, and edChild announce the launch of 'Sustainability from the Start'. This free online course, an ESD Curriculum for Early Childhood Education, will be exclusively available in the ECE Academy App.

According to UNESCO¹, 40% of teachers are confident teaching cognitive dimensions of climate change, but only 20% can explain well how to take actions. This, combined with the urgent need to address climate change and sustainable development, led to the development of 'Sustainability from the Start', empowering educators to play a crucial role in nurturing environmental stewardship and sustainable practices.

Jessica, a preschool teacher from Sweden, remarked, "This course is an easy way to start helping the planet to feel better!"

Key Features of the 'Sustainability from the Start' course:

- Eight comprehensive, user-friendly modules delving into various aspects of sustainable development
- Engaging activities designed for educators and children to explore and learn together. The course includes '8 Friends' characters, seamlessly integrating sustainability concepts into teaching methods
- Insights drawn from leading researchers in the field of sustainable development in early childhood education

Diane, a preschool teacher from Ireland, viewed 'Sustainability from the Start' as an opportunity to enhance her knowledge of biodiversity and sustainability. Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) addresses urgent global challenges where 'Sustainability from the Start' enables practical implementation, combining professional development and activities on environmental, economic, and social sustainability. She aimed to share her knowledge with children, families, and colleagues, and inspire her young learners to become environmental stewards.

"We are providing early childhood educators worldwide with the tools and knowledge to foster a sustainable mindset in young learners," says Ingrid Engdahl, representative from OMEP Sweden.

¹ Education for sustainable development, UNESCO, <https://www.unesco.org/en/education-sustainable-development>



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About the course:

The 'Sustainability from the Start' course will be available on September 1st, 2023, in the ECE Academy App (AppStore / Google Play), offered in multiple languages, catering to a diverse global audience and curricula. For more information about the 'Sustainability from the Start' course and the collaboration between OMEP Europe, edChild, and Kristianstad University, please visit www.edchild.com or email us at hello@edchild.com. Stay up-to-date with the latest news and developments by following us on <https://www.facebook.com/edChildECEAcademy>.

About Kristianstad University:

Kristianstad University is a renowned institution in the field of early childhood education, committed to advancing knowledge and fostering innovation in the educational landscape. Through research, collaboration, and academic excellence, Kristianstad University plays a vital role in shaping the future of early childhood education.

<https://www.hkr.se/en/>

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About OMEP:

OMEP is an international NGO of professionals and researchers, working in 70 countries for children aged 0–8 years. OMEP was established within the UN family in 1948 and advocates for the rights and well-being of children through early childhood education. OMEP's mission is to ensure that children are at the center of educational practices, promoting children's rights and sustainable development. OMEP Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Ireland, and Sweden are partners in developing this course.

<https://omepworld.org/>

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About edChild:

edChild is an award-winning Swedish EdTech company committed to transforming the learning experience for children and educators alike. Grounded in research-based practices, edChild designs innovative technology solutions that enhance educational outcomes, foster a love for learning, and empower educators with effective pedagogical tools. By focusing on the needs of educators, edChild aims to improve early childhood education for all children, promoting all children's development and learning, and a lifelong desire to learn.

www.edchild.com

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