TITLE OF THE PROJECT:
TEXTILE COMMUNICATION OBJECTS

AUTHORS:
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YEAR:
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CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT
The development of a series of textile objects which can be used inside the school for playing and exchange and outside the school as a communication device (in combination with an app). When squeezing or touching the objects, your friend will know you are thinking to him.

BENEFICIARIES
Students of Oak Field School and Sports College in Nottingham. Oak Field School offers schooling for children with development deficiencies. After spending time in the school, most of the students find themselves alone, with very limited social contacts. It is noticeable that students development tends to decrease after leaving the school.

CONCEPT
Creating a series of objects which will help students social during the school times, but which can also be used as communication devices after leaving the school. The idea is to help the ex-students keep contact and contribute in this way to their social exchange.

CONTEXT
AN INTERNET OF SOFT THINGS PROJECT
The Internet of Soft Things project asks how a radically connected world can be designed to benefit human wellbeing, and in particular, what types of experience will be enabled by smart textile interfaces as an important part of this vision of the future.

Research Aims
• inform non-medicalised mental healthcare communities about the issues and opportunities for individuals in a networked society
• inform the participatory design community about different philosophical modes of practice in psychotherapy
• evaluate person-centred therapy for its potential contribution to a new participatory design methodology for the IoT

Research Objectives
• series of workshops held at Mind, where participants create personalized textile objects with soft switches and light output
• service design workshops held in an apartment augmented with textile interfaces.
• participatory iteration of product service design concepts ‘in the wild’.

Partners:
EPRSC, Nottingham Trent University, Nottinghamshire Mind Network, Oak Field School.

Project number: EP/L023601/1.

ARTISTS RESIDENCY
NTU, 15-18 of June 2015

Participants:
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First tests with electronic textiles.

FIRST TESTS
Oak Field School Students testing the first textiles prototypes.