Steps Information

Steps is an approach which places inclusion and equality of opportunity for children and young people at the heart of all it does. Our aim is to influence and improve practice within schools, settings and organisations. At the core of our training messages are key principles which centre on the need for shared and understood strategies and approaches to maximise the likelihood for positive behaviour for both individual children and young people and at a whole school level. Emphasis is placed on positive relationships, consistency and restorative practice which enable children and young people to become self-regulating learners and thereby experience success in their settings and beyond.

Steps training has two distinct programmes.

1. 'Step On' which aims to develop all the skills outlined above and incorporating the safe and effective use of physical intervention techniques. Step On is the most appropriate approach for mainstream schools and is designed to minimise the likelihood of difficult/dangerous behaviour thereby reducing the need for more restrictive physical intervention techniques.
2. 'Step Up' which builds on the principles of Step On and teaches safe, restrictive physical intervention techniques.

The benefits of adopting the Steps approach are apparent at a range of levels and include:

- Children and young people are supported to be successful and are therefore more likely to be included (exclusion decreases, achievement and other positive outcome measures increase)
- Staff have a shared expertise, tailored to the needs of the organisation (improved staff confidence and wellbeing, increased effective responses to the needs of the individual child/young person)
- Expertise in organisations is sustained.
- Organisations can take more responsibility in terms of effective responses to difficult or dangerous behaviour (cost effective for schools)
- The number of, and the need for, restrictive physical intervention is reduced

In Buckinghamshire Step On is delivered as whole school training by school-based tutors, to access this training schools can contact ajacob@primarypru.bucks.sch.uk or enquire in their liaison groups. Step On is free of charge and delivered over 5 hours.

Step Up is delivered by The Buckinghamshire Primary PRU at a cost and is for a maximum of 12 delegates per school. Once Step On has been delivered schools can contact ajacob@primarypru.bucks.sch.uk for Step Up training.