



Outreach Support Team Policy

INTENTION

Stepping Stones Outreach Team is a commissioned service providing support for mainstream schools in the prevention of fixed term and permanent pupil exclusions. The support will be for varying amounts of time, according to need and intends to be flexible, personalised and designed to enable pupils to progress emotionally, behaviourally and academically to the next stage in their educational journey. The focus will be on developing pupils social, emotional & mental health, making progress from their individual starting points, ultimately supporting schools to re-engage pupils to make progress in their learning. In- depth understanding of attachment theory, child development and neuroscience underpins and informs all aspects of our Outreach Support service. Therefore the provision of CPD is crucial in ensuring all mainstream pupils have outstanding support.

The Outreach Support Team helps to facilitate a smooth transition to and from our placements at Stepping Stones, dependent on pupil need and on the availability of provision.

IMPLEMENTATION

Pupil Support: Schools who access support from Stepping Stones are required to purchase a Universal Support Offer which is a base requirement enabling a school to access our telephone/Teams advice and support service which ensures prompt advice and guidance regarding pupil behaviour. It enables access to the resource library, signposting to other relevant professional services, an option to purchase consultancy hours, support for children who have EHCP's and a variety of Support Packages at any time through the financial year. The Inclusion Hubs currently commission this for every school. In two of the three districts in the USO also enables access to termly Network Inclusion Meetings.

The support packages vary from attendance at TAF or Annual Review meetings, to support for schools in engaging with the Assess, Plan, Do, Review process, including a pupil observation, assessment of behaviour difficulties, a full report, a review with staff and parents, plus bespoke hours of direct pupil support. (Please see www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk/SLA for a comprehensive list of available services).

CPD: Our Outreach Support Manager meets with the school's SLT to identify training needs to agree the focus of the training. A bespoke training package will then be created to deliver to individual schools or

School Clusters. Schools can commission a generic training package or a bespoke session will be created, tailored to the specific needs of a school, their staff and pupils. Feedback is used to inform impact and next steps for a school.

Placements: Following input from the Outreach Support Team, it might be appropriate for a pupil's needs to be temporarily nurtured and developed within the Stepping Stones environment for a placement. This placement is discussed at a termly Multi-Disciplinary Admissions Panel (MAP) meeting. A placement is for 12 weeks, following which a review is held to ascertain next step provision. Mainstream school staff training is provided during this time, i.e mainstream staff to visit and work alongside Stepping Stones staff and observe them working with their pupil. A structured pupil reintegration programme is provided to the mainstream school.

IMPACT

The primary measure of the impact of our Outreach Support service will be to keep permanent exclusions to an absolute minimum. We will also measure mainstream school's staff confidence in managing pupils with neuro diverse conditions with associated social, emotional and mental health difficulties. We will evaluate the impact of our service in the following ways:

AIM	IMPACT MEASUREMENT
Reduce permanent exclusions	Liaison with Pupil Access data
Develop mainstream school's staff confidence in managing pupils displaying dysregulated behaviours	Questionnaire & analysis following delivery and review of a package of support Questionnaire & analysis following delivery of each mainstream school CPD
Increase access to learning for vulnerable pupils who have accessed Outreach support	Questionnaire & analysis following delivery and review of a package of support Questionnaire & analysis following delivery of each mainstream school CPD
Improved behaviour, social skills, mental health for vulnerable pupils who have accessed Outreach support	Questionnaire & analysis following delivery and review of a package of support Questionnaire & analysis following delivery of each mainstream school CPD

Review of Policy: **Autumn 2025**