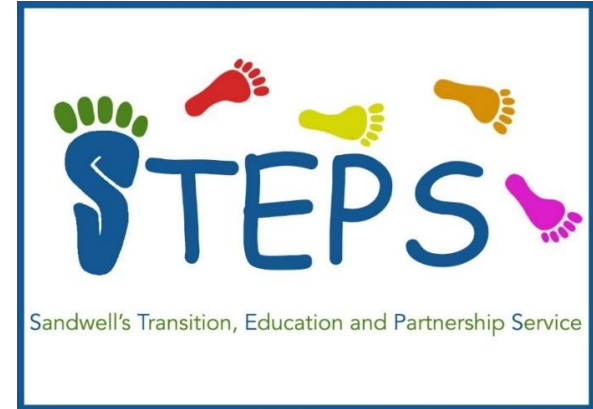


CSE SCRUTINY BOARD

SANDWELL'S AWARD WINNING STEPS CENTRE

We know our children
and safeguard them
from exploitation



OUR CHILDREN WANT TO SAY HELLO



CHALLENGES

- **Rising Population statistics – International New Arrivals / Asylum seekers**
- **13th most deprived ward in the UK**
- **Head Teachers Concerns**
- **July 2016, SMBC SNAP hosted a ‘Newcomer Event’**
- **Funding required – Equalities ACT 2010new**



OBJECTIVES AND AIMS

- **Safeguarding in a school like setting - 75 children age 5 to 16**
- **Focus on Community Cohesion in multi cultural Britain**
- **Aim – Robust Information on families and a smooth transition into school**
- **One-Stop-Shop**
- **EAL Networks**



OBJECTIVES AND AIMS

Strong resilient communities

Our motto reflects the councils Corporate Commitments:

DREAM (our families dream of a better future)

GROW (in their learning, confidence and practical application)

THRIVE (in Sandwell and make positive economic and social contributions)



CONNECTIVITY - Local & National partnerships formed and cemented

**VISION
2030
SANDWELL**



Children Missing Education
Data Intelligence
Admissions and Hard to Place
Sandwell Mobile Library Service
SAFL Family Learning
Mothership
Sandwell Rights and Equalities

Inclusion Support-Sensory Support & SEND
Sandwell Social Care Trust
Children's Therapy Service
Primary/Secondary Schools
Local Authority Asylum Seeking Support Officers
NHS Brook family planning
NashDom – Easter European Speaking Communities

Housing – Rogue Landlords
Sandwell Safeguarding Children's Board
Sandwell Virtual School for LAC
Sandwell Connexions
Brushstrokes Charity – food vouchers

Ministry of Housing,
Communities &
Local Government

Department
for Education

Ofsted

OUR SUCCESS

‘The teaching is good at the centre’ - 100% strongly agree/agree feedback from parent’s questionnaire.

‘Sometimes I don’t understand anything, but it’s very useful’

‘We are very happy for the assistance we received from STEPS Centre, we appreciate you all. Thanks’ and well done!’

Work Experience and Volunteering -‘I know it takes time out of your already busy schedule to organise and support people on work experience, we really appreciate it’ - N Latham Hub Manager University of Wolverhampton

‘Good discussion, good sharing of ideas’ – **Teacher, EAL network meeting**

Dream

Grow

Thrive



OUR SUCCESS

Confidence in the Centre- securing £868,667 from the Controlling migration **Fund (CMF)**; [Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government](#) in January 2018 to April 2020.

Cost Benefit Analysis indicates that through STEPS work, the **cost to the public purse** has been **£44,415 cost of truancy aversion and £5,376,500 cost to families and children's wellbeing** (RHCS independent evaluation Jan 2020).

Throughout the life of Migration Fund (32 months) **total £8,131,372.**

National MJ award Winners – Innovation 2020.



Dream

Grow

Thrive



SUPPORTING AFGHAN RESETTLEMENT AND UKRAINIAN MIGRATION.

The Home Office placed 85 individuals in Sandwell 17th September 2021, STEPS has been instrumental in supporting these families and have sourced schooling/education for:

- 5 reception aged children
- 14 primary aged children
- 10 secondary aged pupils
- 2 post 16 pupils

Recently STEPS has hosted 9 Ukrainian children who have fled the war in their country.

STEPS is a small provision achieving big results by taking the fear out of the unknown for our new arrival families. It was a huge honour to be 2020 MJ winners for Innovators in Children's Services.



Cost of Living Challenge

- STEPs is a Sandwell Food Bank Voucher issuer and staff have signposted families to the foodbank.
- Emergency funding (donated to the centre) has been given to support families
- Referrals to Welfare Rights Advisers (through community Navigators).
- Support with homeless housing applications
- Supporting families with applications for Disability Living Allowance.
- Uniform bought for Ukrainian and Afghani refugees.
- Supporting families and children with council applications for travel assistance.
- All children who are entitled to Free School Meals are supported to apply for Free School Meals at mainstream schools.
- Ensuring schools are aware of which children are affected by No Recourse to Public Funds, as these are the most vulnerable to the increasing cost of living.