



How can I benefit from E-STEP?

- Listening to teachers' and parents' needs for effective collaboration
- Specialised framework for workshops and training at schools
- Strategies and initiatives for effective partnerships between parents and schools
- Provision of guidelines and supporting materials for schools



Project Duration:

24 months (Dec. 2013 to Nov. 2015)

Project Partners:

- CTI, Computer Technology Institute and PRESS "Diophantus", GR
- BCU, Birmingham City University, UK
- BMUKK, Bundesministerium für Unterricht, Kunst und Kultur, AT renamed in 2014 to BMBWF, Bundesministerium für Bildung und Frauen
- NRN Association, National Research Network Association, BG
- EA, Ellinogermaniki Agogi, GR
- ULS, Universal Learning Systems, IE



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Further Information:
<http://estep-project.eu>

e-step



Supporting teachers' and parents' partnerships through social networking technologies

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Lifelong Learning Programme



Short Description:

The ability of teachers and school managers to collaborate effectively with pupils' parents has been identified as one of the priorities that EU member states should promote in both initial teacher training and teachers' ongoing professional support in order to achieve high quality outcomes for pupils. Schools should be viewed as 'learning communities' where pupils, parents and teachers commit to a common vision about the values and objectives of schooling. Effective school leadership is also associated with building active partnerships with parents so as to foster higher achievement levels as well as to support pupils' overall cognitive and social development.



Final Outcomes of the Project

- specialized training framework and supportive materials for teachers around Europe on:
 - How to support, engage and motivate parents to utilize social networking systems in order to collaborate with teachers?
 - Developing strategies and initiatives that teachers and school leaders can use to communicate effectively with parents and to engage them in their children's learning at home and at school.
 - Specific approaches for school leaders on how to support their school teachers on designing and effectively implementing parental engagements activities.
- Implementation in 25 European schools in phase A, and 125 schools in phase B



The project aims to improve teachers' and school leaders' knowledge and understanding of effective parental engagement and enable them to develop skills that will strengthen and improve the role of parents in schooling. This will be achieved through use of state-of-the-art ICT networking tools. These technologies will benefit teachers and parents by enabling them to connect to education services, resources and collaborative learning support activities.



The training framework will be sustained in the future through the use of an online training process along with toolkits and guidelines for school staff. This process will enable teachers to be familiarized with the empirical knowledge about parents' engagement, and to directly apply this knowledge base in real-life situations in selected pilot schools around Europe.



Parents will be able to make use of digital resources and social networking tools to collaborate more effectively with teachers and participate in, co-create and better understand the education of their children. The project tools and resources will support school staff to build and strengthen parent-school partnerships.