Successful Transition from Elementary to Post-Secondary (STEPS) Program

STEPS is a two year program for students with issues affecting learning (including learning disabilities, ADHD and Autism Spectrum Disorder) and their families to assist with making a successful transition from Grade 7 to secondary school and beyond. STEPS is offered by The Regional Assessment and Resource Centre (RARC) at Queen’s University.

The program consists of an updated psychoeducational assessment, and student and parent/guardian programming over the course of the Grade 7 and 8 years. Programming includes group sessions, Adaptive Technology training, and a high school transition camp. The STEPS program itself is at no cost. The psycho-educational assessment does have a fee of $2000, which can be paid in instalments over up to 2 years and may be covered by some supplemental health insurance plans.

To hear from former students and parents, follow this link: https://tinyurl.com/STEPStestimonials

STEPS Information Night: Wednesday, November 11th 6:30 pm – 8:00pm on Zoom.
Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84875904514?pwd=Q0xGaHVhlZkTStEd3JQcElrU1IWZz09
or join with Meeting ID: 848 7590 4514 and Passcode: 444437

“My husband and I have benefitted from the parent sessions and we have learned many new strategies to implement. Josh has realized and implemented many of the ideas he has learned. Not only has this improved the school day and school work, this has made a huge improvement to our home life.”

The STEPS program offers:

✓ INCREASED SELF-KNOWLEDGE & SELF-ESTEEM
✓ ADVOCACY SKILLS
✓ A SENSE OF BELONGING
✓ CLASSROOM & TECHNOLOGY SKILLS
✓ INCREASED KNOWLEDGE OF THE SPECIAL EDUCATION SYSTEM
✓ INCREASED SUCCESS IN HIGH SCHOOL AND POST-SECONDARY
To be eligible, students must:
- Apply for the program during the fall or winter of their Grade 7 year
- Have impairments in academic achievement
- Be previously diagnosed with a relevant disability (e.g. a learning disability, ADHD, Autism Spectrum Disorder), or have a history that strongly suggests a relevant disability
- Have average intellectual functioning, based on previous assessment findings

Due to a limited number of spaces in the STEPS program, **not all students who meet eligibility requirements will be accepted into the program.** Priority will be given to:
- Students whose profiles are well-matched to benefit from this intervention program
- Students whose applications are received to RARC early (October through December)

**Participation in all aspects of the program is required. Program components include:**

**In Grade 7:**
- An updated psychoeducational assessment (to be provided during Grade 7 or 8, when safe to do so in regards to COVID-19)
- Sessions for students and parents focusing on: learning disabilities, self-esteem, self-advocacy and navigating IPRCs and IEPs at the school level (4 sessions, May 2021)
- A one-week adaptive technology camp for students (with option for parent participation) (July 2021)

**In Grade 8:**
- Sessions for students and parents on preparing for secondary school (Fall 2021)
- A one-week secondary school transition camp (August 2022)

*Please note that transportation is not provided.*