

BILD and ICM Accreditation For Team-Teach Training

Team-Teach Ltd was part of the original working group which resulted in the establishment of the BILD accreditation scheme.

The British Institute of Learning Disabilities (BILD) had originally proposed an accreditation scheme which focused on the needs of adults and children with learning disabilities and/or autism. However in 2002 it was commissioned to produce a broader based accreditation and policy framework that reflected the full range of agencies and service user groups, including schools and other children's services.

Team-Teach Ltd has continued to work both within and outside of BILD to promote development in this direction and in particular to ensure that the concerns of mainstream and specialist children's services are heard.

Over time it has become apparent that the BILD scheme was not expanding in the way that had been intended. In 2008 the authors of the revised BILD policy framework made the following statement of intent:

"We have resisted the temptation to produce a policy framework that applies to all these different agencies and service user groups. Instead, we continue to focus on the needs of adults and children with learning disabilities and/or autism, while recognising that in practice this core group melds into other diagnostic or administrative categories. Learning disability and autism define our own sphere of competence and provide the surest ground for our efforts to revise and update policy and practice in respect of physical intervention."

(PARA 1, PAGE 8)

During the same period of time the Institute for Conflict Management (ICM) has been evolving in a different direction. Established with the support of the Health & Safety Executive in 1997, the ICM has established a broader based accreditation scheme for training in conflict management and reduction in workplace violence. It was funded by the HSE to set standards in training and in 2003 established the ICM Foundation Award to provide trainers and others, with certification that demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the standards. This award has been presented to Team-Teach, along with several other organisations, and it continues to gain recognition nationally.

The ICM also acts as the Secretariat to the All Party Parliamentary Group on work-related violence and bullying at the House of Commons. The group provides a valuable opportunity for practitioners to raise issues and keep them at the top of the government agenda.

Team-Teach is committed to working in partnership with all governmental and non-governmental organisations that reflect our ethos of a balanced approach towards reducing risk, restraint and restriction through holistic whole team training. This includes mainstream schools, children's homes, special schools, settings for adults and for older people. We look forward to working productively within the ICM framework in the future.