

Team Teach Accreditation Status. (April 2015)

Following consultation with services and employers, Team Teach has decided to not resubmit (June 2015) its courses for BILD reaccreditation. Having achieved BILD accredited status in 2006, 2009 and 2012, the sentiment expressed through the consultation process, was that the 2014 BILD Code of Practice was too prescriptive, restrictive and lacked relevance related to the majority of services that Team Teach training supports. (for more detailed information, see the news article entitled: "British Institute of Learning Disabilities Code of Practice 4th Edition 2014) <http://www.team-teach.co.uk/CurrentNews/>

It has been the experience of Team Teach that the great majority of the services and individuals it supports use positive behaviour support approaches, de-escalation and restraint appropriately and responsibly. There is reluctance and resistance, within the BILD / PBS agenda to acknowledge and support the valuable and positive role that those who are prepared to "hold onto individuals" within an organisation can have.

BILD do not and have not, accredited any physical techniques within any training programmes and the switch in accreditation systems has not been driven by any issues arising from the personal safety or restraint responses within the Team Teach system.

Team Teach will continue to support such services and individuals who "act in good faith" and work within an ethos and culture of positive behaviour support approaches with a focus on de-escalation, restraint and risk reduction.

Therefore, in order to maintain an independent, robust, external process that will provide quality control and assurance, Team Teach has applied for and been granted: "The Quality Training Centre", this nationally recognised accredited status is awarded by The Institute of Conflict Management (ICM) . www.conflictmanagement.org The ICM Quality Award recognises those providers – internal and external that aspires to the highest standards in training provision.

The ICM is a not for profit, independent organisation incorporated to develop strategies and standards to help reduce, and where possible eliminate, the risk associated with incidents of challenging, aggressive and violent behaviours. The ICM works across all sectors and at all levels to achieve this aim.

Using the National Occupational Standards as the benchmark, the scheme focuses on companies or organisations' processes (not content). Applicants must provide evidence of a training need analysis, training design process, learner support, learning environment, and the quality and effectiveness of trainers.

In 2012, the Department of Health published Transforming Care: The ICM has been involved in the consultation process for this Guidance, and whilst it acknowledges that "there are no universally accepted standards for the use of physical restraint", the ICM is highlighted as one of two recognised bodies having a voluntary accreditation scheme, which organisations can use to map their training and relevant policies to an agreed standard.

All Party Parliamentary Group: The All Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) meets 2-3 times per year at the House of Commons to discuss issues and progress practical developments related to managing work-related violence and bullying. The ICM acts as the Secretariat to the APPG, which is a valuable forum helping to keep these issues at the top of the government agenda. These 'business' meetings are supplemented by 'seminar' meetings where industry representatives are also invited to attend and speak. The Group is chaired by Ian Stewart MP and Baroness Gibson is the vice-chair.

The DFE, in the latest Use of Reasonable Force Guidance (July 2013), makes it clear that: "Schools need to make their own decisions about staff training. The headteacher should consider whether members of staff require any additional training to enable them to carry out their responsibilities and should consider the needs of the pupils when doing so".

Team Teach is an established (20+ years) behaviour support training programme, gaining national and international recognition, for quality delivery, value for money, quality control, assurance and support for services and individuals that use our programme. We are affiliated to The General Services Association, which was established in the 1990's in the U.K by Aidan Healey OBE. We have received favourable comments, recognition and support from the DOH / DFE, Ofsted, National Teacher Associations and Trade Unions - see FAQ's on the tt website for more information. <http://www.team-teach.co.uk/FAQs.html#14>

In addition, to recently achieving national accredited status with ICM, Team - Teach training has also received the highest level of award in the U.K - a National Training Award – (see http://www.team-teach.co.uk/NTACase_study.pdf case study section on the home page of the tt web site) This government supported award is presented to entries who have demonstrated exceptional achievement through training and development. Judges were impressed by the support infrastructure and the robust quality control and assurance processes. They observed that it was a clearly needed service and its innovative approaches have delivered significant benefits to schools/services and local authorities / employers.

For the employers, services and staff groups that we support, this change in accreditation systems means that Team Teach will, at present, maintain its current course structures, options and refresher requirements.

We will look to increase our future value by: evolving key safeguard standards that are attainable and realistic. We will provide a flexible and relevance course content appropriate to workplace context and circumstances, with a holistic, staff focus on positive behaviour support approaches. The emphasis will continue to be on de-escalation, risk and restraint reduction.

I am happy to personally talk through any issues arising or concerns on: 01825 740778 or 0772 01 06522

Best wishes,

George Matthews (Director Team Teach) April 22nd 2015

See the document: "Why Choose Team Teach?" available from the "Contact Us" section of the tt web site. http://www.team-teach.co.uk/Contact_Info.html