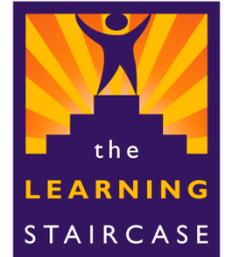




Introduction to the Steps Home Programme



Dear Parents/Caregivers

Your child is working on the **Steps** software programme at school. This is a specialist literacy software programme which teaches reading, spelling, vocabulary and comprehension.

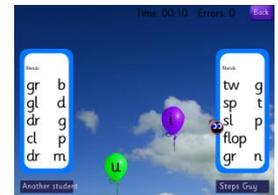
There is a home version, which you can use to reinforce your child's learning at home. This can be used by up to 5 learners in the family and will enable your child to practice what he or she is learning with us at school. Extra practice is crucial for many children, especially those who may be struggling with literacy



You can purchase a home version of **Steps** from the Learning Staircase website. The cost is \$80 per year (includes up to 5 learners). The programme can be downloaded from: <http://www.learningstaircase.co.nz/products/parents-home-resources/software/steps-home-digital-download/>. You will need to enter your credit card number.

Steps is the only major NZ literacy software programme. It was designed and created in Christchurch and it is currently being used in between 700 – 800 NZ schools, and a growing number abroad, including some of the top specialist dyslexia schools in the UK.

As well as using the courses and existing wordlists on Steps, you can enter your own words, sentences and definitions. This can be done in English, Māori, Pasifika languages – or any text-based language.



The programme can be used by all ages from five to adult. All users can download new content as it becomes available (no charge!). There is a wide range of educational games, as well as teaching activities.

Steps can be used for extension learners, as well as for those who need extra help. It can cover every level right up to university level!

You can download a free 15-day trial from: <http://www.learningstaircase.co.nz/parents/free-trial/>.

There is also a lot of supporting information (including teaching videos) on the website, including a parent section: <http://www.learningstaircase.co.nz/parents/>.

The Learning Staircase also retails a range of other resources, including software programmes for numeracy, memory, comprehension, touch typing, planning skills and assessment. They provide free technical and educational support for all users.



www.learningstaircase.co.nz

