

Youth and Education Service for Refugees and Migrants



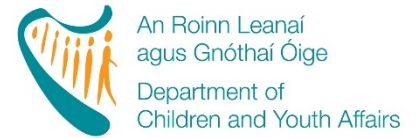
More than a new language - addressing the education and training needs of unaccompanied minors in Ireland

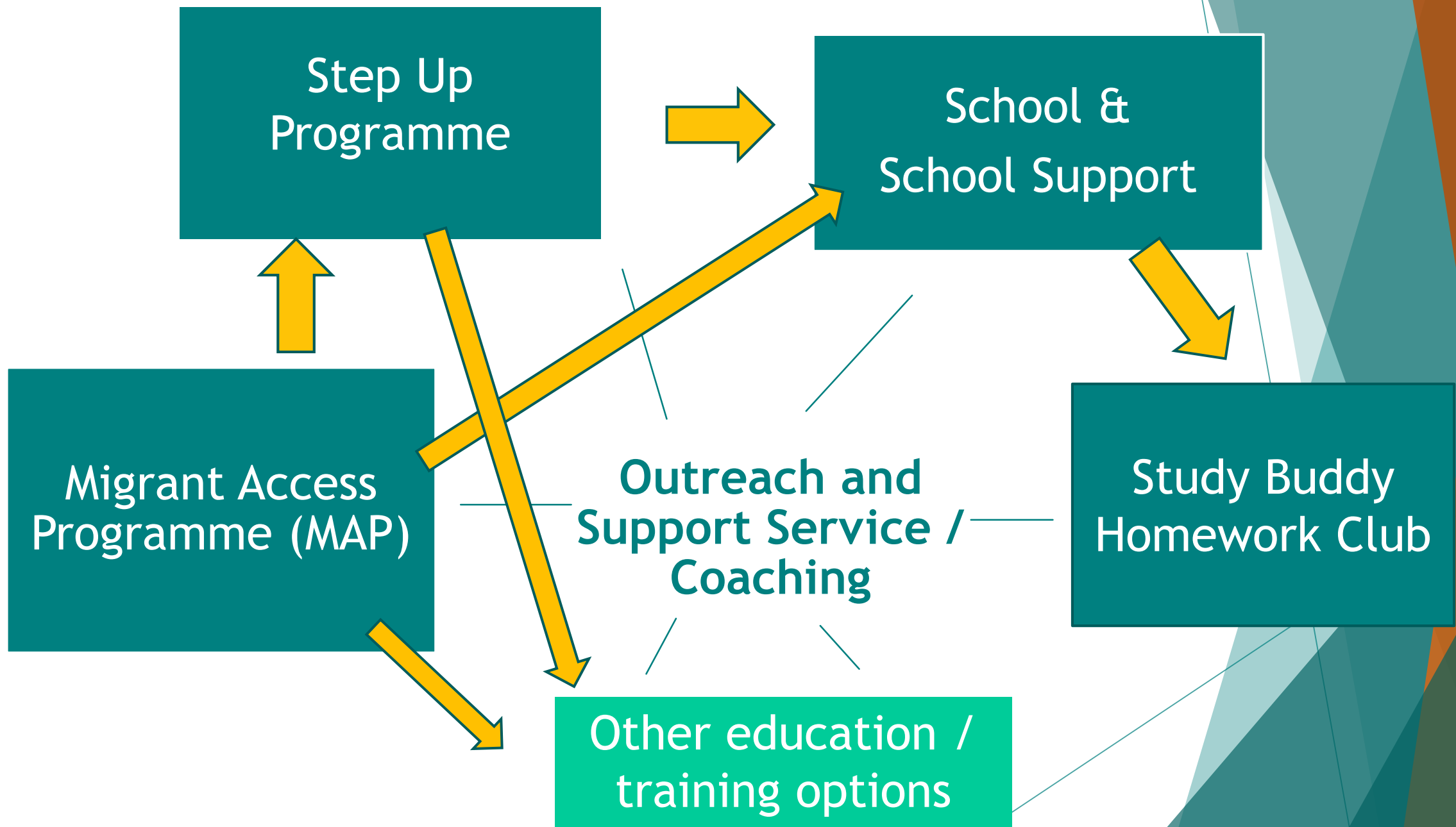
CDETB

An Bord Oideachais agus Oiliúna Chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath
City of Dublin Education and Training Board



SOLAS
An tSéirbhís Oideachais Leamháil agus Scileanna
Further Education and Training Authority





MAP - transition programme for young refugees and migrants (post primary)

- ▶ Semi-formal environment
- ▶ 20 hours per week
- ▶ English as an Additional Language (A0 - A2 on CEFRL)
- ▶ Mathematics
- ▶ Life Skills
- ▶ Basic IT skills
- ▶ Literacy Support
- ▶ 42 weeks per year
- ▶ Flexible intake and progression
- ▶ Attendance: between 6 weeks to 12 months
- ▶ Grouped by English language ability (3/4 groups)
- ▶ Capacity of approx. 40
- ▶ Group size between 6 and 14

STEP-UP

- 12 hours per week
- ESOL
- Maths
- plans to expand

Some numbers

- ▶ 2017/18: 105 students
- ▶ 29f :76m
- ▶ Top 5 countries:
 - ▶ Eritrea (15) Afghanistan (13), Somalia (13), Romania (8), Albania (7)
 - ▶ approx:50:50 unaccompanied minors / with family
- ▶ 2018/19 Sept - Nov: 49

More than a new language

Importance of post -migration life, structures and supports for the wellbeing and mental health of the refugee child.

- ▶ peers - teachers- volunteers
- ▶ welcoming, friendly and safe environment
- ▶ Importance of routine
- ▶ Sense of belonging



More than a new language

- ▶ Life Skills: interpersonal, intercultural communication, rights & entitlements, health, fitness, wellbeing.
- ▶ Links and cooperation with outside agencies, for example Community Gardai, Children's Ombudsman, Youth Work Events, sports events, etc.
- ▶ Extra-curricular activities - outdoor education, music, cooking, health and relationship workshops, excursions, sports, residential
- ▶ Weekly language exchange programme with a local school
- ▶ Intercultural activities with other groups



More than a new language - Youth Work Service

Life-skills programme based on needs of young people

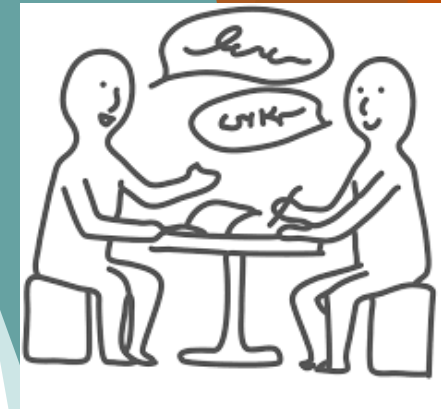
Holistic / wrap-around approach - youth workers support outside school

Study Buddy - Drop -In - Afternoon Activities

Individualised support (in collaboration with TUSLA)

Family and Community Work

Referrals to other services



Issues and Questions

- Immediate immersion vs transition period
- School placement and supports
- Education and training progression routes for those with minimal or disrupted education
- Supports in other alternative provision (vocational training)
- Access to education / training for those without status (post 18)



Good Practice

- ▶ Close interagency cooperation
- ▶ Immediate start on Access Programme
- ▶ Individualised planning
- ▶ Education and Youthwork approach



Thank you!

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