We at Stepping Stones are very aware of the need for privacy.

This site does not collect any personal information, except where provided by visitor's enquiries. In this case the information is used only for the purpose of the enquiry. If requested we will use the email address to send Newsletters and club updates. This data not stored on any publicly accessible system. You may request to be removed from any club notifications at any time by contacting the site's WebMaster. (See below for contact details)

We do not provide any personal information to any third party (except where required to do so by law or in connection with any legal proceedings or prospective legal proceedings)

The website contains links to other external websites. We are not responsible for the content, privacy policies or practices of third party websites. No personal information is provided when linking to another website.

We do not partner with or have special relationships with any banner or pop-up advertising server companies. Visitors who receive pop-up or other intrusive advertising materials whilst visiting this site are advised to check their computer for advertising software and spyware using a commercial or freeware tool. Please advise the site's WebMaster should this occur.

Personal email addresses or telephone numbers are not published unless provided for publication (such as adverts on the Traders page). We are prepared to provide "...@steppingstonesmk.org.uk email addresses that will automatically forward emails to your personal address for such purposes. Replies to those emails will be sent from your personal email address. We cannot provide email addresses for private use.

In common with most web sites, we collect anonymous information about your computer and about your visits to, and use of, this website (including your IP address, geographical location, browser type and version, operating system, referral source, length of visit, page views and website navigation). No personal information is collected.

We use Google Analytics™ to analyse the use of this website. Google Analytics generates statistical and other information about our website’s use, again anonymously. The information generated relating to our website is used to create reports about the use of the website. Google will store this information. Google's privacy policy is available at: http://www.google.com/privacypolicy.html. We would be pleased to provide a copy of the latest Google Analytics report we receive. Please contact the Stepping Stones WebMaster

We will take reasonable technical and organisational precautions to prevent the loss, misuse or alteration of your personal information.
Data transmission over the internet is inherently insecure, and we cannot guarantee the security of data sent over the internet. Visitors to this site should ensure that they have adequate and up-to-date anti-virus and firewall technology installed on any computer used to access the internet and to send and receive email.

The Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 require that users are aware that cookies, and similar technologies, are used in the Stepping Stones Web Site, purely for the use as stated above. As this is the only use of cookies there is an implied consent that the user may accept the cookie, but with the understanding that the user can prevent or reject all or some cookies.

Cookies and their purpose
Cookies are small text files that are placed on your computer by websites that you visit. They are widely used in order to make websites work, or work more efficiently, as well as to provide information to the owners of the site.

We use cookies to make our website easier for you to use. You can remove any cookies already stored on your computer. Removing cookies should not prevent you from using our website, it may have a detrimental effect on others.

When someone visits the Stepping Stones website we collect standard internet log information and details of visitor behaviour patterns. We do this to find out things such as the number of visitors to the various parts of the site.

- We collect this information in a way which does not identify anyone.
- We do not make any attempt to find out the identities of those visiting the Stepping Stones website.
- We will not associate any data gathered from this site with any personally identifying information from any source.
- If we do want to collect personally identifiable information through our website, we will be up front about this.
- We will make it clear when we collect personal information and will explain what we intend to do with it.

Use of cookies by Stepping Stones
The table below explains the cookies we use on this website and why we use them.

- Google Analytics __utma, __utmb, __utmz, __utmc –

These cookies are used to collect information about how visitors use our site. We use the information to compile reports and to help us improve the site. The cookies collect information in an aggregated and anonymous form, including the number of visitors to the site, where visitors have come to the site from and the pages they visited.

Cookies are NOT viruses. Cookies use a plain text format. They are not compiled pieces of code so they cannot be executed nor are they self-executing. Accordingly, they cannot make copies of themselves and spread to other networks to execute and replicate again. Since they cannot perform these functions, they fall outside the standard virus definition.
Cookies CAN be used for malicious purposes though. Since they store information about a user's browsing preferences and history, both on a specific site and browsing among several sites, cookies can be used to act as a form of spyware. Many anti-spyware products are well aware of this problem and routinely flag cookies as candidates for deletion after standard virus and/or spyware scans.

**Stepping Stones do not make use of this type of cookie.**

Some websites use cookies to display advertising material when viewing their own, and other, web sites.

**Stepping Stones do not make use of this type of cookie.**

Most browsers allow you to accept or reject cookies, whilst some browsers allow you to reject just third party cookies. As there are many browser programs currently available it is not possible to provide exact instructions. Please contact the Stepping Stones WebMaster for assistance.

Blocking cookies can have an adverse effect of the use of some websites.

For more information regarding The Privacy and Electronic Communications (EC Directive) Regulations 2003 please refer to the Information Commissioner Office website http://www.ico.gov.uk/

We may update this privacy policy from time-to-time by posting a new version on our website. You should check this page occasionally to ensure you are happy with any changes.

Stepping Stones WebMaster can be contacted by email to webmaster@steppingstonesmk.org.uk