

The Jisc logo consists of the word "Jisc" in white, sans-serif font, centered within a solid orange square. The background of the slide features a hand holding a glowing, translucent sphere with intricate, branching patterns in shades of red and blue, resembling a neural network or a complex data structure. There are also several large, semi-transparent grey circles of varying sizes scattered across the dark background.

Jisc

Step Up Programme

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**Building a community of
innovators supporting long
term change in UK education**

Jisc and Emerge Education have partnered to bring together a collaborative community of edtech founders and education leaders to increase innovation and support long term change in UK education.



What is Step Up?

In partnership with Emerge Education, a leading seed investor for edtech startups, Jisc has worked with institutional decision makers to co-design the Step Up community. This community is bringing together edtech founders and education leaders with a common goal of **increasing innovation and supporting long term change in UK education**. Our mission is sustaining an innovation community that will transform higher and further education with technology.

Step Up provides external validation of edtech companies' solution, team, and technical compliance from a source the sector trusts. Step Up companies receive exclusive access to a community of senior managers (Vice-Chancellors, Deputy V-Cs, CIO and similar) with a spot on the curated list of fully vetted and assessed startups. Startups can expect to see benefits in taking their product through the sales and procurement process at any UK institution with confidence.

Programme Benefits

- Simplify your route through the institutional procurement process with our sector insights
- Understand how your company can best compete in the UK institutional market with the Step Up Programme; a set of self-guided resources on key topics from sector experts
- Validate your own technology, team, and company operations with our robust healthcheck, including personalised guidance through the process
- Participate in an exclusive community of edtech founders and UK education leaders supporting long term change in education
- Collaborate with a community of like-minded innovators at our tailored Step Up events
- Stand out from the competition with a dedicated spot on the list of vetted startups that decision makers reference to identify solutions for their institutions.

Features

Join the Step Up community: £600 p.a.

- Guidance from sector experts on understanding and navigating institutional procurement processes (webinars, etc)
- Completion of a sector validated assessment process to prepare for current and future procurement and marketing activities
- The “Assessed by Jisc” badge for use on marketing materials
- Featured to institutional members on the Jisc Step Up website
- Discounts on a growing portfolio of services available to edtech companies, starting with the world class trusted ISO 9001 certified security penetration

Events and networking: £2,000 p.a.

(only available to Step Up assessed companies)

- Participate in the annual Step Up Summit event
- Inclusion in networking opportunities with institutional senior leaders
- Access to promotional opportunities

What people are saying about Step Up



“Universities are open and interested but it’s often management who will say: ‘What are the risks?’ Having [an] assessment gives universities more confidence that when they engage with a startup, it’s not going to be a flash in the pan with a lot of effort and no return, but it’s actually something that has an element of life to it.”

**Graham Galbraith, Vice-chancellor,
University of Portsmouth**



“Step Up is the only programme available [in the UK] to show institutions that your technology, your team, your ways, how you handle security processes, are approved and can be recommended.”

Kirsten Heiss, CEO, Open Campus