



Department
for Education

Schools
Commercial
Team

How Get help buying for schools can help your school

Tim Brown
DfE Stakeholder Engagement

ABLE - Tuesday 22nd November Eastwood Hall

Supporting schools to achieve great value



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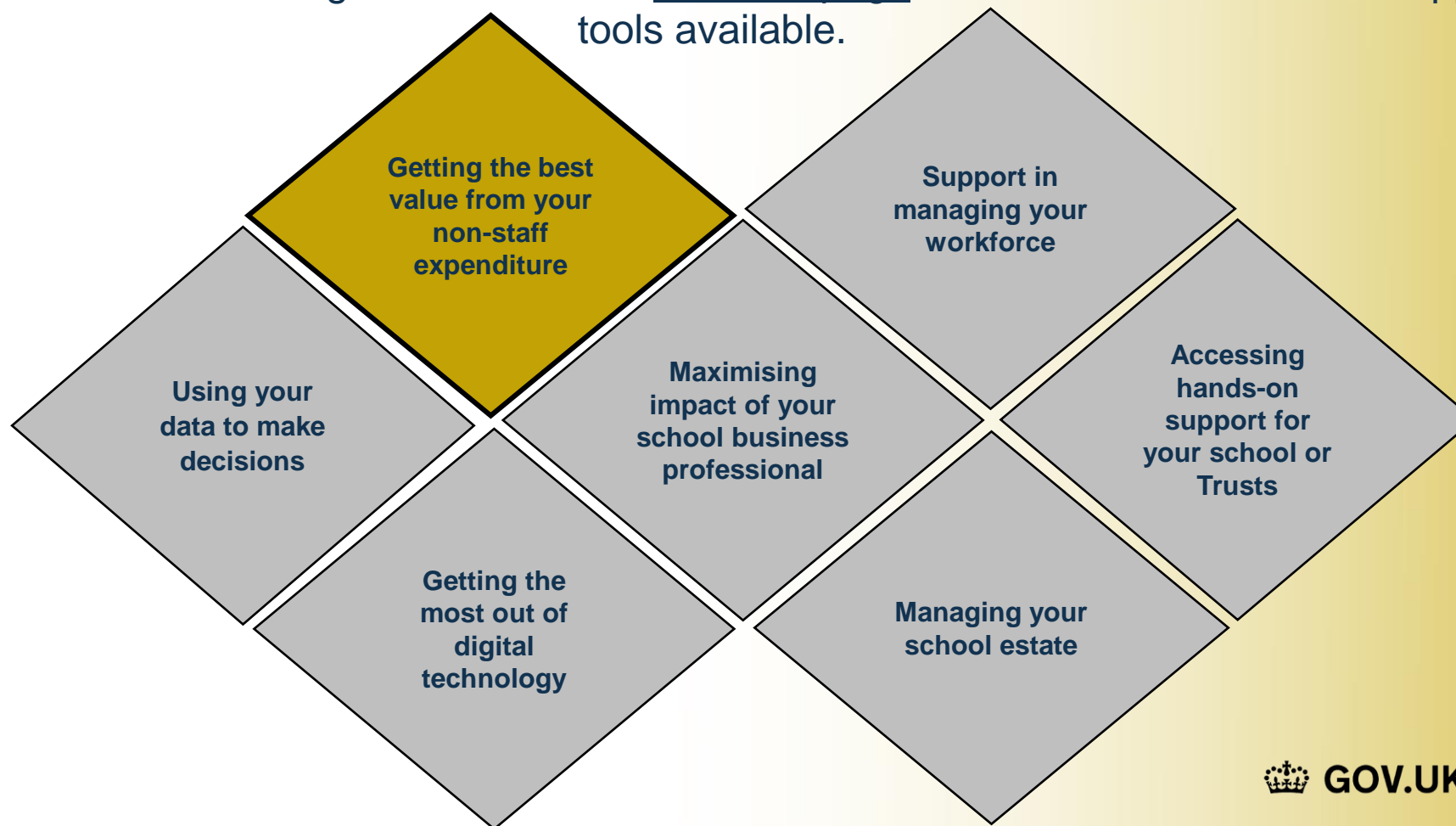
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Schools Resource Management

The Schools Resource Management programme aims to help schools and trusts secure the best value from their expenditure, so they can re-invest it back into improving outcomes for pupils.

The School Resource Management collection [GOV.UK page](#) contains links to all of the support and tools available.



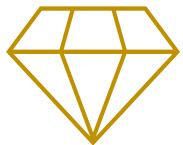
Strategy and Principles



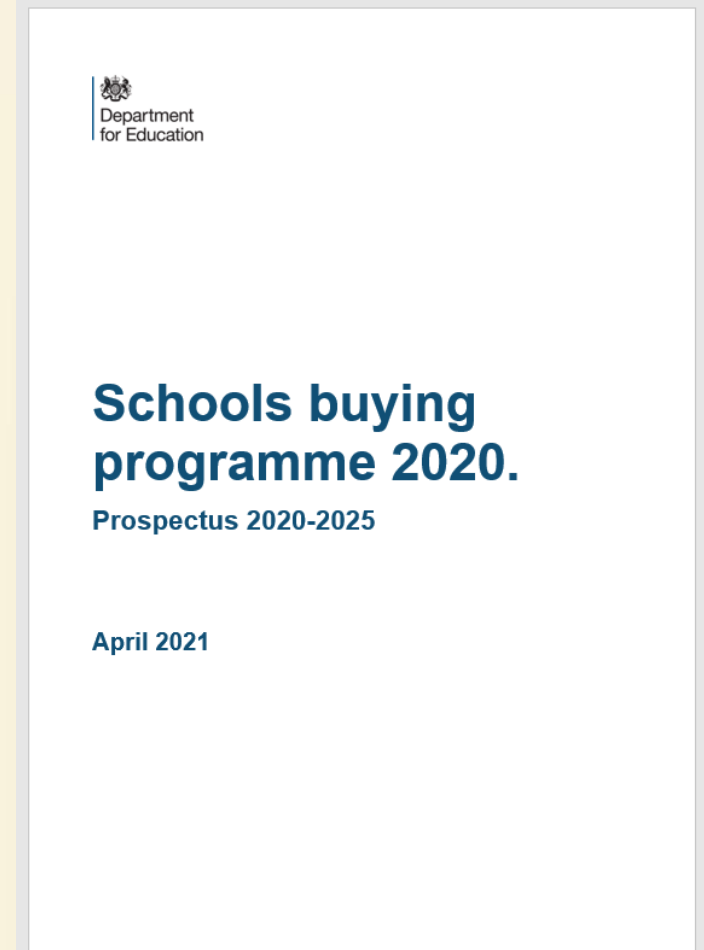
Support schools to be smart consumers – providing practical help and advice on buying decisions and contract management



Ensure buyers and decision makers in schools have the right relationships and skills – building peer-to-peer support networks and creating regional advice and guidance services to help with complex buying



Ensure buyers have access to the best value every time – giving schools access to better deals.



Our work includes...



Get help buying for schools



Over 40 Approved Frameworks



Find a Framework online tool



Framework webinars & 1:1 Buying conversations



RPA for Academies & LAMS cyber cover included



Flood, fire & crime resilience



Published Buying guidance

Department for Education
Schools Commercial Team

CCS Supply teachers and temporary staffing framework

What are the new and existing benefits?

- New!** 25% more suppliers to choose from compared to the previous version of the framework
- Clearer and more consistent terms and conditions
- Clearer mark-ups that are easier to understand by using a pounds & pence rather than percentage model, offering greater transparency costs
- A simpler and more concise order form, making it even easier to manage your spend across to the framework

- Compliant route to market
- Complete transparency of costs
- Value for money
- No temp to perm fees after 12 weeks, with 4 weeks' notice
- Reduced mark-ups for nominated workers and regulated mark-ups for other workers
- Suppliers are accredited by 1 of 4 approved industry bodies – operate at or above industry standard
- All workers must satisfy robust pre-employment and safeguarding checks providing peace of mind (in line with Keeping Children Safe in Education standards)

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Free webinars in November:

Webinars to be hosted by the DfE Schools Commercial Team this November.

Monday 15	Get help buying for schools	Monday 29	Buildings in use
Monday 15	RPA	Monday 29	RPA Cyber
Monday 22	ICT	Monday 29	RPA cyber
Monday 23	Professional services	Monday 30	Building maintenance
Monday 23	Hiring agency staff		

Department for Education

RPA Members: Regulatory Mock Trial

FREE workshop

17th November 9:00 - 12:00

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If you're responsible for buying goods and services for your school, we have an exciting opportunity for you...
...see more

SUPPORT
ADVICE
GUIDANCE
ASSISTANCE

Schools Commercial Buying Conversation

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Understanding School needs...



Connected 100+ SBP networks



SBP buying and insight groups



Working with professional bodies



MAT Procurement Professional Network

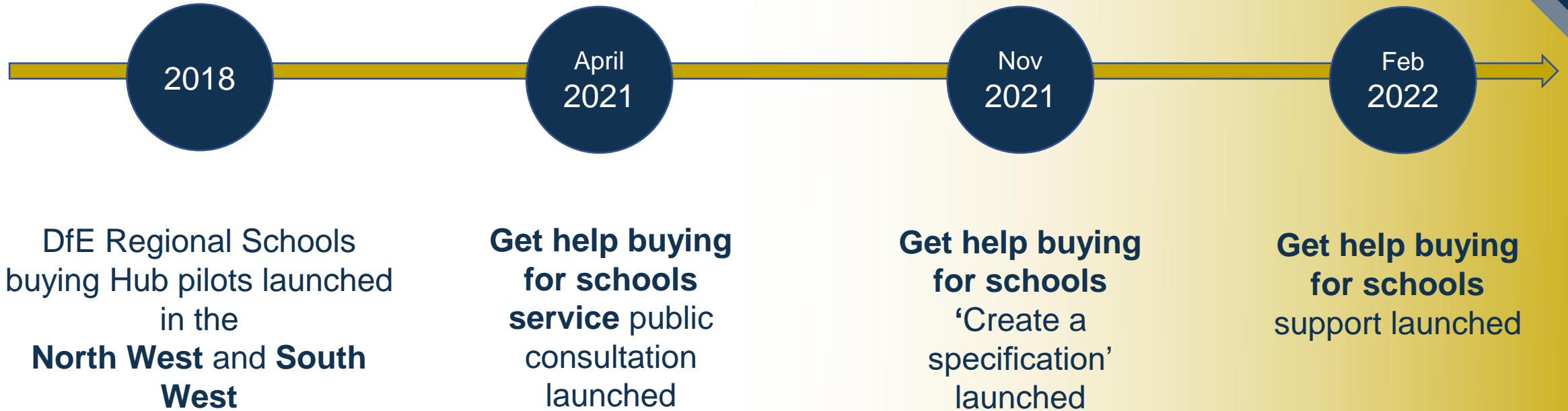
Buying things using a procurement process is time consuming and complicated.

Many buyers in schools don't have the confidence or capability to do it themselves, and fail to get best value as a result.

Get help buying for schools

Timeline

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DfE Regional Schools buying Hub pilots launched in the **North West** and **South West**

Get help buying for schools service public consultation launched

Get help buying for schools 'Create a specification' launched

Get help buying for schools support launched



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Our aims for Get help buying for schools



- Get help buying supports schools to enter better value commercial deals, saving them money
- Get help buying supports schools and makes schools feel better equipped to deliver future procurements

What is... 'Get help buying for schools'?

Get help buying for schools is a **free** and **impartial** service, delivered directly by the DfE, for all state funded schools in England

We can:

- give you general guidance or specific advice on buying goods or services for your school
- give you support with buying goods or services for your school using a framework agreement
- buy on your behalf through a framework agreement
- buy on your behalf by getting quotes or bids for contract renewals or new procurements from an open supplier market



How do we deliver this....

- DfE procurement operations team created with staff that include over 200 years of multi sector award winning procurement expertise
 - Public sector
 - Private sector
 - Third sector
- Based in Darlington and Sheffield, but with national reach
- Team structured under a 'modern category' management structure

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Team



Department for Education
Schools Commercial Team

Meet Clare

Role: Commercial Lead, Get help buying for schools team

Previous experience: Procurement Manager at North Yorkshire County Council.

Fun fact: "I like being outdoors, walking, cycling and exploring."

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Department for Education
Schools Commercial Team

An introduction to the Get help buying for schools team

Meet Julie

Role: Commercial Lead

Previous experience: Procurement Manager at North Tyneside Council over 30 years public sector procurement experience.

Fun fact: "I am such a terrible singer I once had a karaoke attempt stopped in mid song as it was too unbearable for the audience to continue. In my defence it was a group of 5 people not just me."

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An introduction to the Get help buying for schools team

Meet Becky

Role: Senior Buyer

Previous experience: 10 years' experience in the private sector working for large corporations such as Cummins, 3M, and Darchem Engineering.

Fun fact: "I have played football since I was 4 years old starting off at a boys' team and finally retiring only recently due to a serious back injury at Middlesbrough Ladies FC."

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Schools Commercial Team

An introduction to the Get help buying for schools team

Meet Sherie

Role: Commercial Practitioner - SEO

Previous experience: Assistant Buyer, stationery/print & crafts at YPO, Buyer, Mechanical & Electrical Buyer at Tyco. 17 years' experience altogether in public/private and private sector.

Fun fact: "I used to coach roller hockey for under 10's in Salford. I was the club ambassador and helped the club obtain funding for disadvantaged youths to join."

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Leadership

Catering

Facilities
Management

ICT

Services

Energy and
Utilities



What do our users have to say?

On Get Help Buying for Schools Procurement Operations team gathering photocopier framework quotes to present to school governors...

"It's been good that someone has done this work... as I just don't have the time to do that"

On Get Help Buying for Schools Procurement Operations team framework support...

"There were these 4 frameworks that came up to choose from, but then it was like well what now? It just wasn't clear, who should I contact or where do I go next? Which led to the start of this process where I've been helped through that, and it's been very useful"

On Get Help Buying for Schools Procurement Operations team framework support...

"It's good for someone to just chat you through it... have a discussion... that happened"



What do our users have to say?

Blog

Buying for Schools

Search blog



Organisations: [Department for Education](#)

[My experience of using the Get help buying for schools service](#)

[Kieren Done](#), School Business Manager at St Ambrose College, 26 October 2022 - [Services](#)



In this blog post, Kieren Done - School Business Manager at St Ambrose College, a grammar school in Altrincham, Manchester, shares his experience of using Get help buying for schools and how it could help you with your buying too.

[Read more](#)

About this blog

The Buying for Schools blog is run by the Department for Education's (DfE) Schools Commercial Team. We're here to support people who buy for schools and buying decision makers in schools around all those potentially tricky areas of procurement.

[Find out more.](#)

Sign up and manage updates

 [Email](#)

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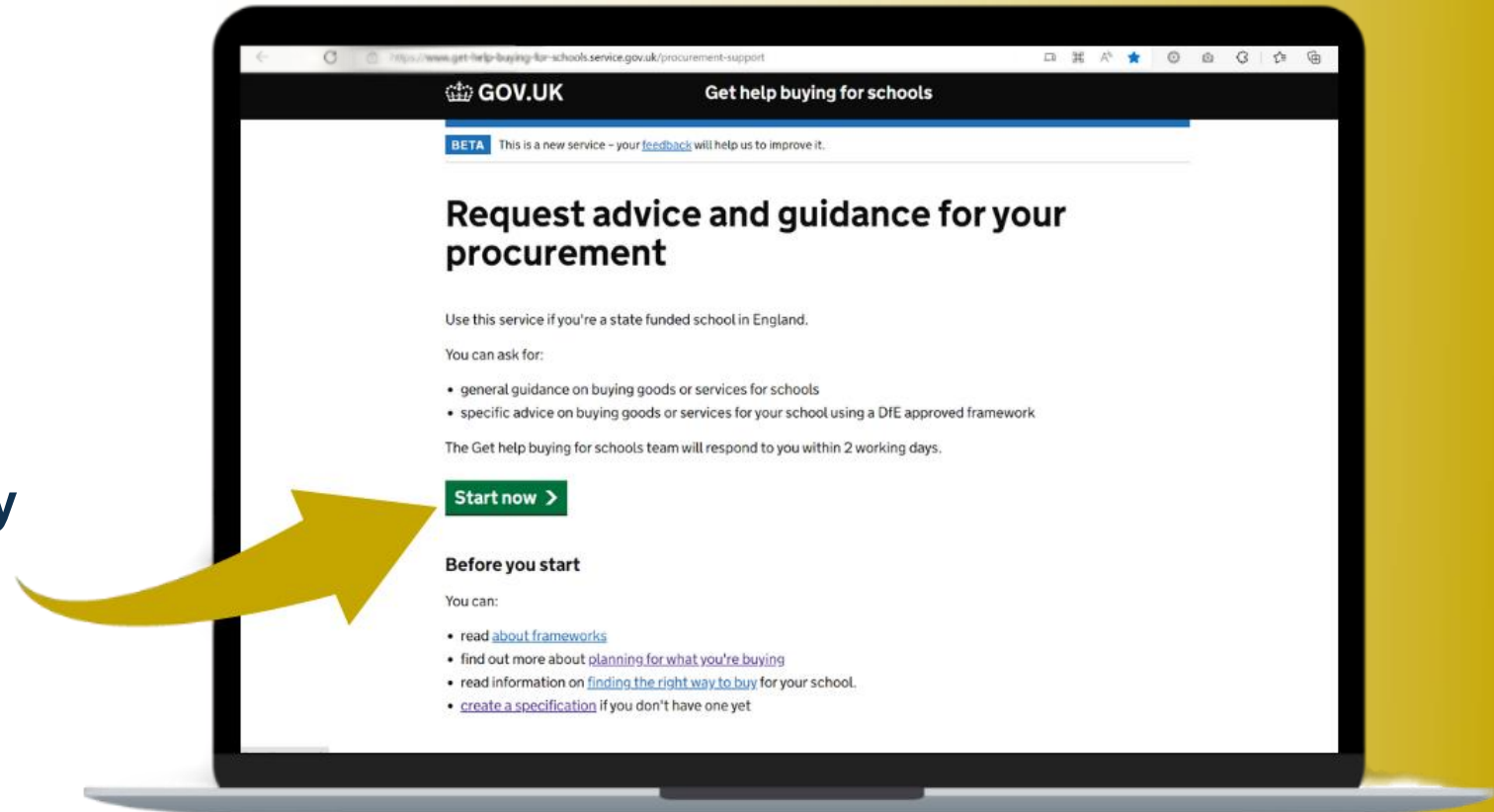
Kieren Done is a School Business Manager at St Ambrose College, a grammar school in Altrincham, Manchester with around 1000 pupils.

How you can access Get help buying for schools...

Access the service here: [Get help buying for schools](https://www.get-help-buying-for-schools.service.gov.uk/procurement-support)

Remember:

- It's free
- It saves you time
- It's compliant
- It helps you get value for money
- It's impartial



What's on the horizon?



Through 2022 and 2023 we want to...

- Support more schools with their procurement needs
- Support schools facing cost pressures
- Develop and refine the digital journey on GOV.UK
- Support schools deliver more complex procurements
- Support schools with changes in regulations
- Respond to feedback
- Share more success stories



Find out more

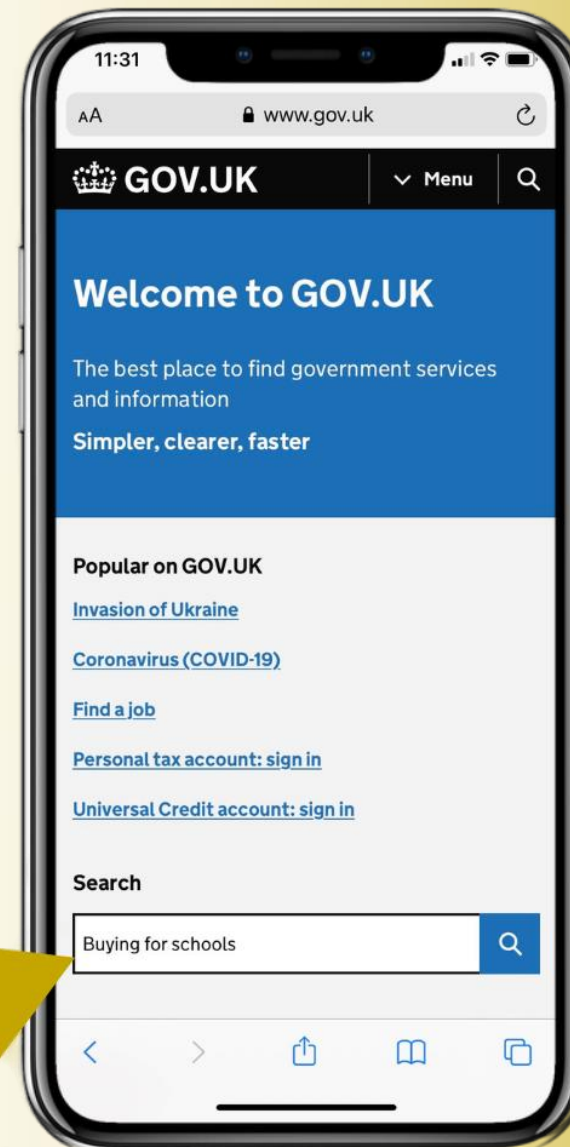
Get in touch by searching Buying for schools on GOV.UK



[Buying for Schools blog](#)

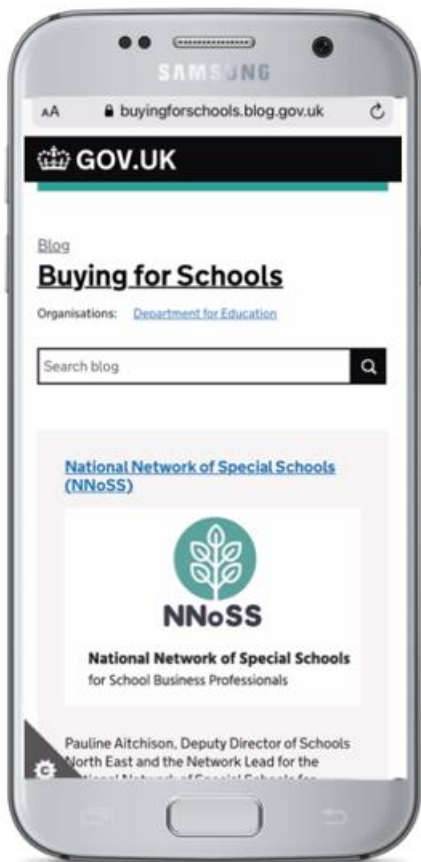


[Buying for Schools on LinkedIn](#)

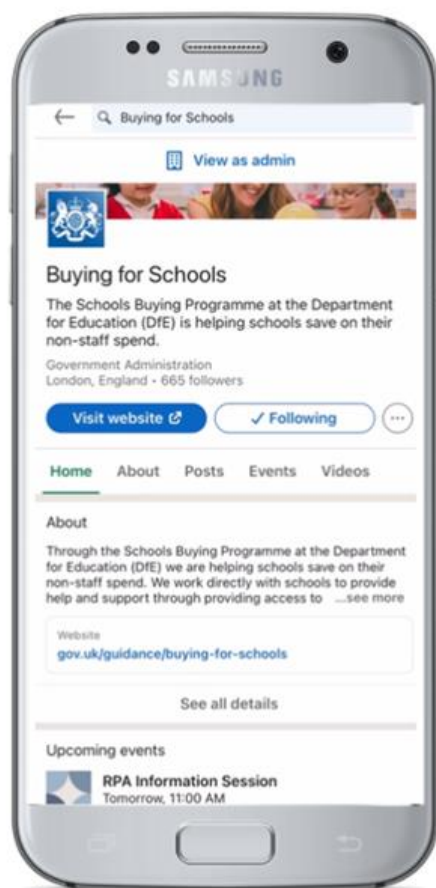


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Follow Buying for Schools



Register for updates to our 'Buying for Schools' blog which you can find on Gov.uk. We post regularly about the things our team are up to, events, frameworks and lots more.



Search 'Buying for Schools' and follow us – we share regular updates from our team about events, webinars and lots of other useful information



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Questions?

Thank you

Supporting schools to achieve great value



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