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Tender

## **Early Years: Accredited level 3 training for Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs)**

Department for Education

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004325

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04cd8e

Published 10 February 2025, 12:01pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

#### **Contact**

Jo Foster

#### **Email**

[EYRecovery.SENCOTRAINING@education.gov.uk](mailto:EYRecovery.SENCOTRAINING@education.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

Early Years: Accredited level 3 training for Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs)

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

### **II.1.4) Short description**

This contract is to deliver training to a minimum of 1,000 early years (EY) Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs) resulting in an accredited Level 3 EY SENCO qualification. The training will be for SENCOs working in group-based and childminder settings. The training will be available across England.

For further information, please access the ITT documents via the Jaggaer e-Procurement platform (itt\_3343).

### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £950,000

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80500000 - Training services
- 80510000 - Specialist training services
- 80511000 - Staff training services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England

- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Early identification of SEND is essential. As set out in statutory guidance SEND code of practice: 0 to 25 years, (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-code-of-practice-0-to-25>) (“the code of practice”), it is particularly important in the early years that there is no delay in making any necessary special educational provision. Early action to address identified needs is critical to preparing children for school, and to the future progress and improved outcomes that are essential in helping children to prepare for adult life.

Providing high quality special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) training for the Early Years workforce is therefore essential to address challenges within the current EY SEND system, including maximising access to entitlement places and delivering quality care and early intervention for children with SEND whilst in settings. SENCOs play a fundamental role in this.

The primary objective for any future training would be to increase the number of level 3 qualified SENCOs available to children in group-based and childminder settings, who have the knowledge and skills to properly fulfil the role of a SENCO, as described in the Code of Practice.

The role of the SENCO involves:

- ensuring all educators in the setting understand their responsibilities to children with SEND and the setting's approach to identifying and meeting SEN
- advising and supporting colleagues
- ensuring parents are closely involved throughout and that their insights inform action taken by the setting, and
- liaising with professionals or agencies beyond the setting.

The Successful Supplier will deliver training to a minimum of 1,000 SENCOs between 1 May 2025 and 31 March 2026. Trainees are expected to take up to 6 months to complete the training.

For further information, please access the ITT documents via the Jaggaer e-Procurement platform (itt\_3343).

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £950,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Start date

1 May 2025

End date

31 March 2026

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

#### **IV.2) Administrative information**

##### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2025/S 000-000184](#)

##### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

12 March 2025

Local time

5:00pm

##### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

##### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

##### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

12 March 2025

Local time

5:01pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Royal Courts of Justice

The Strand

London

Country

United Kingdom