

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/006449-2026>

Planning

Delivering the Best Start in Life - Implementation Partner

Department for Education

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-006449

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-060d7c

Published 26 January 2026, 9:38am

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

Scope

Reference

project_10114

Description

This notice seeks early market engagement for the Department for Education procurement of a implementation partner to support local authorities in delivering the Best Start in Life (BSiL) programme and achieving their statutory target to increase the number of children reaching a Good Level of Development (GLD) by 2028.

We want to secure a partner that drives BSiL and Best Start Family Hub transformation and empower local authorities to:

- Lead and drive bold, innovative local system transformation through strong leadership and partnerships, strategically targeting resources, assets, and expertise to maximise impact on early child development and health outcomes.
- Deliver ambitious, high quality BSiL and Best Start Family Hub (BSFH) services that improve early child development outcomes for children and families in their local area.
- Learn from, develop and share evidenced-based best practice to build local authority capability through a combination of tools, resources, tailored group and 1:1 support to enable effective data use, encourage innovation and address challenges in leadership, partnership working, workforce, and specialist areas including speech and language pathways, health integration, access, SEND and data sharing.

We welcome suggestions on the most effective procurement approach to ensure value for money and support a bold and innovative model.

Total value (estimated)

- £0 excluding VAT
- £0 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2026 to 31 August 2028
- Possible extension to 31 August 2029
- 3 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKI - London
- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Engagement

Engagement deadline

29 May 2026

Engagement process description

The Department will be hosting an online event which will take place on Wednesday 4th February 2026.

If you are interested in joining this event, please use the link below to register via Jaggaer (see View Opportunities)

<https://education.app.jaggaer.com/web/login.html>

We intend to share the questions and answers from the events with all potential suppliers.

We may host a further market engagement event following feedback from this event.

Please Note:

- This notice is for early market engagement and exploratory purposes and is not a call for competition.
- The Department for Education reserves the right not to enter any formal processes or agreements.
- Accordingly, the Department for Education will not be liable for any bid cost, expenditure, work, or effort incurred by a provider in acting based on this notice.

We intend to share the questions and answers from the event with all potential suppliers.

The opportunity is suitable for but not limited to SME's and VCSEs

Consideration will also be given to consortia and collaborative bids from all forms of organisations.

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

29 May 2026

Contracting authority

Department for Education

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDZG-3487-DPVD

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street

London

SW1P3BT

United Kingdom

Email: PolicyAssurance.COMMERCIALQUERIES@education.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

