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Tender

Non-Statutory Specialist Pre-School Provision (NSP) for Children with Complex Needs and Severe Learning Difficulties

the Education Authority

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-027772

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05271b

Published 27 May 2025, 2:18pm

Scope

Reference

EDR-25-006

Description

The Education Authority invites tenders for the purpose of establishing Contract(s) for the provision of Non-Statutory Specialist Pre-School Provision (NSP) for Children with Complex Needs and Severe Learning Difficulties for a period of 12 months with the option to extend for period(s) of up to and including 24 months.

Total value (estimated)

- £1,666,666 excluding VAT
- £2,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2026
- Possible extension to 31 August 2028
- 3 years

Description of possible extension:

Any period(s) of up to and including 24 months.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80110000 - Pre-school education services
- 80490000 - Operation of an educational centre

Contract locations

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

None.

Technical ability conditions of participation

Technical ability to perform the contract - Previous Experience

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Enquiry deadline

13 June 2025, 3:00pm

Tender submission deadline

23 June 2025, 3:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Tender submissions must be submitted electronically via the eTendersNI platform - <https://www.etendersni.gov.uk>

Tenderers should review the '01 Specific Tender Instructions and Assessment Methodology' document in conjunction with the '02 Specification Schedule' document. Tenderers should also review the '05 General Instructions and the Tender Competition Rules' document.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

1 August 2025

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
AC2 Service Delivery Plan	Suppliers must submit a Service Delivery Plan which demonstrates how they plan to deliver an efficient and effective service within the requirements of the contract with specific reference to the following Give details on: • How classes will be staffed appropriately to meet the needs of children with SLD in Early Years. • Details of how daily, medium-term and long-term planning appropriate to Early Years will be implemented in the setting. • What adaptations will be made to the classroom environment and structures. • What additional plan/risk assessments will be put in place to meet the needs of children with SLD	Quality	50%

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
	<p>and complex behavioural, physical and medical needs. • An outline of a typical session within the setting appropriate to the needs of pupils with SLD in Early Years. • Provide information current and future class capacity. i.e. if your organisation plans to increase capacity by running additional sessions.</p>		
AC1 Key Personnel Experience	<p>Suppliers must provide detail on the key personnel who will be involved in the delivery of the service throughout the contract period. Suppliers must demonstrate their capacity and resources in terms of their key personnel to deliver an efficient and effective service within the requirements of the contract. Give details on: • How key personnel meet the minimum level of qualifications</p>	Quality	30%

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
	<p>required as outlined in document 02 Specification Schedule.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How key personnel have accredited and non-accredited training to meet the needs of pupils with complex needs and severe learning difficulties. E.g. Augmentative Communication, Sensory Integration, Emotional Regulation, Hearing and Vision, PEG, Epilepsy Awareness, Allergy awareness, Diabetes, Oxygen, Manual Handling, Team Teach, Autism, Nurture. • How safeguarding/child protection training and policy is disseminated to key personnel within the setting. • How key personnel devise and follow risk assessments and subsequent plans appropriate to the needs of pupils with complex needs/SLD within your setting. E.g. behaviour, 		

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
	<p>manual handling, medical needs etc. •</p> <p>Any additional training key personnel in your setting have accessed. E.g. Food hygiene, First Aid, Fire Safety, GDPR. •</p> <p>How key personnel engage in appropriate curriculum planning/ baselining and assessment of pupils with SEN in your setting as informed by their statement of special educational needs.</p>		
AC3 Social Value (Alternative approach)	<p>With reference to the Social Value Delivery Plan (Annex 6 of document 02 Specification Schedule), describe HOW you will support and ensure the delivery of:</p> <p>Theme 1 - SECURE EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS Theme 4 - PROMOTING WELLBEING</p>	Quality	10%

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
AC4 Price	Suppliers must download and fully complete the document 03 Pricing Schedule. The document must then be uploaded into the financial envelope on eTendersNI.	Price	10%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

A Pre-Market Engagement exercise was carried in January 2025 prior to the implementation of the Procurement Act 2023. A PIN was published for this PME exercise under the FTS notice reference 2025/S 000-001740, published 17/01/2025.

Contracting authority

the Education Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPHJ-6982-JPXY

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT12NQ

United Kingdom

Email: educationresource.procure@eani.org.uk

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland