



Buying for schools and academies

- free to use
- great value deals
- bulk buying power
- significant savings
- dedicated customer support



Crown
Commercial
Service

Why work with CCS

It's estimated that schools and academies spend more than £10 billion a year on non-staffing costs such as electricity, water, IT hardware and software, photocopiers, printers, stationery, minibuses and facilities management.

That's the equivalent of about 400 new secondary schools or 270,000 primary school teachers.

It's why we want to help you get the most out of every pound you spend - so that more money can be spent in your classrooms.

As the UK's biggest public procurement organisation, we work closely with the Department for Education (DfE) to develop deals that make it easy for you to compliantly and cost-effectively buy what you need to run your school.

Why not join the growing number of schools and academies making great savings with CCS?

Jenny Nugent
Commercial Agreement Manager
Supply Teachers



Here are some of our deals that you can benefit from:



Supported by:



Supply Teachers

Fill your temporary teaching and non-teaching roles compliantly, with an easy to use online agency selection tool and the peace of mind of robust background checks. Transparency on agency mark-ups means you will know exactly what you are paying and there are no temp-to-perm fees after 12 working weeks (subject to 4 weeks notice).

"Thanks to the guidance from Tom at CCS I felt confident negotiating with an agency and was thrilled to be able to bring the fee down significantly."

Margaret Dempsey, Business Manager, Lampton School, Hounslow saved £2,700

School Switch

Just like a domestic energy comparison site, our online energy switching service gives you a flexible, simple way to compare quotes and buy energy without the need for specialist knowledge. You will get instant, bespoke pricing based on your requirements, transparent viewing of supplier prices, and the ability to fix prices for a term defined by you.



Supported by:



"The time that School Switch can save and the confidence it gives is really good, especially for those less knowledgeable about the energy industry. The site is simple and straightforward. I would definitely use it again."

Anthony Gollings, Director of Finance and Support Services, St Thomas More Roman Catholic Academy saved £7,000

Education Technology

Access exceptional value for money managed IT services, broadband fibre infrastructure, broadband services, hardware and audio visual solutions - all from suppliers with the knowledge, skills and capability to help you ensure a modern digital learning environment.



Supported by:



Modular Buildings

The fast, cost-effective and flexible answer to your classroom capacity issues. Typically you will achieve savings of around 50% compared to traditional builds. Construction is faster and less labour intensive so you can be up and running in a matter of weeks.

Spend Analysis and Recovery Services

Expert suppliers can identify where you have been overcharged or overpaid. They will recover the money for you up to 6 years after an error has occurred. They can also review your utility bills to recover errors or under-recovered balances. And it's all on a no-win no-fee basis.



Data and Application Solutions

Software led technology applications and solutions to support your back office systems and data needs. With schools in mind, options include platforms for academic scheduling, attendance monitoring, student records, premises management and distance learning.

Fleet

Buy, lease and hire cars, minibuses and coaches including electric, alternatively fuelled and ultra low emission vehicles. An online portal gives you quotes with a full breakdown of costs, and you can also choose a local dealer for delivery and after sales service.



How to buy

There are a number of different ways to buy the products and services you need through our commercial deals. If you are not familiar with the procurement process you might find this quick overview helpful. For further advice and guidance please get in touch.

Framework agreements

A framework is an overarching agreement negotiated with suppliers by CCS on your behalf. They are free to use and you will benefit from competitive prices, compliance, standard terms and conditions and supplier vetting. Each framework will tell you what buying options are available to you, as they do vary depending on what you are looking to buy.

Further competition

Running a further competition means framework suppliers bid for your business. This helps you get a competitive price based on your specific needs. The process typically takes 6-8 weeks, although this will depend on the complexity of your requirement.

Our free eSourcing tool can help you run your further competition online, or you can use your own sourcing tool, if you have one.



Direct order

If there is only one supplier on a framework, you can place a direct order (known as direct award). This may also be possible even if a framework has several suppliers. If the framework you wish to use offers a direct award option, you can use this if:

- you know what you want to buy
- you can see which supplier provides the lowest price
- you do not need to make amendments to the standard terms and conditions



Bulk buying

Bringing together customers with similar needs means we can help you achieve great value. It also makes the tender process simpler, as we run it on your behalf. We offer 2 different 'aggregation' options:

- online eAuctions
- national further competitions



Online catalogues

We are continuously seeking ways to make buying quicker and simpler, and have a range of digital solutions available to help you. These include:

- supply teachers agency selection tool
- online energy switching service
- fleet portal



We're here to help

To learn more about how we can help you please visit:

ccs-schools.uk

Sign up for our regular newsletter to stay up to date with all the latest news and events and ask any questions you have by filling out our online enquiry form.

Alternatively, you can contact our customer service team directly:

0345 410 2222

info@crowcommercial.gov.uk



@gov_procurement



Crown Commercial Service