

School Buyers' Network

www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/school-buyers-network

**To The Headteacher
All MK Schools**

Contact us:

01908 254516

sbn@milton-keynes.gov.uk

**Cc: Secretary/Bursar/Finance Manager/
Business Manager**

26 January 2012

Dear Headteacher

School Buyers' Network (SBN) in 12/13

You may recall that the above service was launched in April 2011 and SBN has had a successful first year. (Please refer to the enclosed comments received via our feedback survey and direct from customers.)

We will build on this sound base and hope that you will continue with your SBN membership and / or will decide to join for the first time in 12/13.

These are the key features of the SBN service:

- On-going information about, and access to, local and central government buying consortia, so that members are able to source goods and services via pre-tendered contracts or framework arrangements. This ensures that schools benefit from the competitive prices available to local authorities / the public sector, which will deliver cost savings as well as provide quality assured / risk-free procurement.
- Supplier profiles about new companies and/or new products from existing suppliers, so that you are aware of those we have met and think may be of interest to you. This will reduce the need for your school to research new areas of supply and give you access to our existing supplier database.
- We will ask member schools which specific supplier types or goods they would like the Network to procure on their behalf, via customised arrangements, in order to benefit from aggregated / high volumes.
- We will assist schools that have to go out to tender for their own contracts, including specialist support from MKC's Corporate Procurement function and use of the Council's electronic In-Tend tendering system.

School Buyers' Network is a service offered by Milton Keynes Council



I attach the following information about the School Buyers' Network, which I hope will be of interest:

1. Case Studies of procurement savings achieved by members of the School Buyers' Network in the past year.
2. Comments made by existing school customers about School Buyers' Network.
3. A full service specification for 12/13. **Please note, the prices for SBN membership have been held at the current (11/12) levels** and for 12/13 also include a cluster / group option for primary schools.

If you would like us to come and meet you in order to give you and your Governors an opportunity to find out more about SBN / the Brokerage team, or you have a query you would like me to answer by e-mail, please let me know.

The process for selecting School Buyers' Network in 12/13 will be via MKC's annual Services for Schools on-line offer and buy-back system. This system went live on 23 January.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely



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