

# Buyers Guide and FAQs

The ICT Procurement Framework for Education

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## Why use Everything ICT?

## Compliance

OJEU Tendered DfE-approved Pre-approved suppliers

## Protection

Value for money Support if things go wrong

## Easier for you

We do the work for you

Fast, easy, strealined administration

#### BOV.UK Find a DfE approved framework for your school

## Your recommendation Everything ICT

We think you should use the Everything ICT framework.

#### What it offers

- Hardware such as PCs, laptops, tablets, servers, printers, multi-functional devices.
- Software such as Microsoft O365, Google, Adobe, cyber security, mobile device management, educational content, MIS and financial packages.
- Connectivity such as broadband, dedicated lines. 4G, 5G and satellite.
- Infrastructure such as wifi, cabling, wide area networks and network management.
- Cloud services, including Microsoft Azure, automated backup services, remote desktop, disaster recovery, VoIP systems.
- Mix of fully and partially managed services.
- IT Support, including staff training, onsite support technicians and remote helpdesk.
- Consultancy services, including cloud readiness assessment, review of technical infrastructure and existing contract reviews.

https://find-dfe-approved-framework.service.gov. uk/find/type/on-going/services-categories/ict/ ict-services/cloud/ict-procurement

## What can I buy through the framework?

- Hardware such as PCs, laptops, tablets, servers, multi-functional devices and interactive boards.
- Software such as Microsoft O365, Google, Adobe, cyber security, mobile device management, educational content, safeguarding, MIS and financial packages.
- Internet connectivity such as broadband, dedicated lines, 4G, 5G and satellite.
- Infrastructure such as WIFI, cabling, wide area networks and network management.
- Cloud services, including cloud hosting, automated backup services, remote desktop, disaster recovery, internet-based telephony systems (VoIP).
- Mix of full and partially-managed services.
- **IT Support**, including staff training, onsite support technicians and helpdesk services.
- Consultancy services, including procurement support, cloud readiness assessments, review of technical infrastructure and existing contract reviews

For a full list of the CPV Codes go to https://www.everythingict.org/framework-info

### What are the benefits of using Everything ICT?

- Free for customers to use.
- DfE-approved government framework.
- No registration or 'joining' process.
- Choose from over 200 pre-checked and pre-approved value for money suppliers.
- Save time getting quotes which are relevant to you, often within 24 hours.
- Save money with reduced pricing through national agreements with manufacturers.
- Multiple quotes or direct awards your choice.
- Better value through suppliers benchmarked on cost, quality and service.
- Free advice on procurement regulations, tendering processes, and recommended suppliers.
- Pre-agreed terms and conditions which the framework enforces for you.



## ...to some of our tried, tested and trusted suppliers...



...and many more. Over 200 pre-approved suppliers.

## Organisations representing over 6,000 schools.



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

## How do I buy through the framework?

#### Tell us what you want

If you know exactly what you want, then great. If not, we can help with recommendations.

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#### We get your quote(s)

We can get multiple quotes from different suppliers (or you can run your own procurement process). Or, if your trusted supplier is on the framework you can direct award to that supplier. We send you the on-line quote to review.

#### **3** Sign and raise a Purchase Order

Let us know if you're happy to accept the quote, or ask for changes. Raise a Purchase Order in your finance system and add when accepting the quote.

#### The supplier delivers

The supplier(s) deliver your goods/ services.

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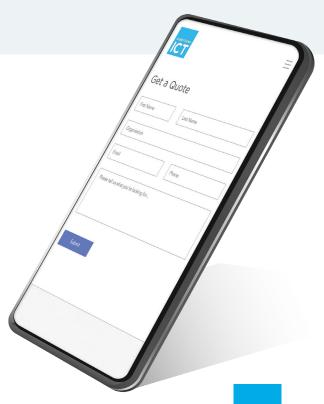
4

#### Invoicing

We send you an invoice quoting your Purchase Order and when you're happy with the goods/serivces you pay the invoice.

### How do I get a quote?

- 1 Go to the website <u>www.everythingict.org/get-a-quote</u>
- 2 Fill in the form
- 3 If we need any further clarification, we'll give you a call
- 4 That's it. We send you the quote as fast as we can



### Less frequently asked detailed questions

#### What if my trusted supplier isn't on the list?

Easy, ask them to contact <u>suppliers@everythingict.org</u> and we'll send them the application form. If they pass our evaluation process, they will join our approved supplier list (see below). On occasion, we can do this at pace so they can join your mini-competition.

#### How does EICT select suppliers?

Any supplier can apply to join the Framework. There is no fee for them to join, but there is a rigorous evaluation process that tests, among other things, that they comply with all the usual Public Sector requirements (e.g. DBS checks, GDPR, Modern Slavery). They must also sign up to the full Framework terms and conditions, including that customers must not be able to buy cheaper through any other route.

#### Who can use the Framework?

While we were set up and designed for Education, any Public Sector organisation can use the Framework. A full list of organisations can be found on the website at: <u>https://www.everythingict.org/framework-info</u>.

#### Why do I pay EICT and not the supplier?

Your contract is with the Framework, not the supplier. We do this to provide protection to you in case something goes wrong. We don't pay suppliers until you sign off that you are happy. If something goes wrong with that supplier, it's our responsibility to sort it out on your behalf.

#### How do you ensure value for money?

The Everything ICT Framework terms and conditions are written for and on behalf of the Framework customers, not the suppliers. Suppliers can't join the Framework unless they agree to those terms and conditions, including the framework being the best value for money route for customers to buy.

National arrangements with major vendors like Cisco where we have negotiated nationally best pricing through their nominated resellers.

Internal benchmarking between competitive companies. We process thousands of orders each year so we compare similar quotes to ensure best value for money.

Like-for-like comparisons. We test similar specifications from different manufacturers (e.g. comparing laptops from Dell, HP or Lenovo) to see if there are better prices on equipment that will do the job just as welll.

#### Who are E2BN?

The East of England Broadband Network (E2BN) are one of the Regional Broadband Consortia (RBCs) set up by the Government in 1999 to provide connectivity to schools. It is a Not-for-Profit, Public Body backed by Local Authority members. It is the Public Body that let the Everything ICT framework contract.

#### Who are WCL (UK)?

WCL (UK) is the limited company that bid for and won the Everything ICT Framework contract. When the company was set up in 2011, we didn't know we would have such a high-profile role, otherwise we would have picked a better name <sup>(2)</sup>. While we trade as Everything ICT (for obvious reasons) we invoice and will show in your finance systems as WCL (UK).

#### Where can I see the Contract Award Notice?

The contract award notice can be found at <u>https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/</u>notice/40346f29-54b0-499a-a9bd-50d09c86ce88?origin=SearchResults&p=1.

## Why can I sometimes find things cheaper on Google, Amazon or ebay?

Often there are sensible reasons like: it's not a like-for-like specification; it comes without a warranty; it's end-of-range, or there are limited volumes. Value for Money is defined in the DfE Buying Guidance as more than about price; quality and service are also important factors to take into consideration. And if you buy from these other sources we can't help when things go wrong O



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### What do I do if I have a question or a problem?

We recommend contacting your named point of contact at EICT if you have any questions or issues. Please use the below email addresses if you have not yet been assigned a named contact.





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