

Caroline Wright, BESA

Procurement for More Inclusive Education

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What is BESA?

BESA is the trade association for the UK's education suppliers industry. We partner education suppliers – from start-ups to multinationals – to raise awareness of their products and services and drive up standards of education across the globe.

BESA – a quality mark for Ed suppliers



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Looking for quality education products and services?

BESA members represent the entirety of the UK education suppliers sector from EdTech to school furniture.

Always look for the BESA logo when buying for your school to be assured of the best quality and the highest value.

Use the BESA website to source new suppliers and check whether existing ones are BESA members.

www.besa.org.uk

All BESA member companies adhere to our Code of Practice, so you can be confident you are spending wisely from companies you can trust.

 @besatweet



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Code of Practice

This Code of Practice is a mandatory membership commitment given by members to BESA. Each member is expected, as a condition of membership, to meet the ethical standards provided for in this Code of Practice in that member's relationship with the member's customers.

Quality & Standards

- ✓ We will seek to achieve the highest standards and will offer our products, advice and services honestly and honourably in a fair and transparent manner.
- ✓ We shall behave in a professional manner and will respect the reputation of our sector and the other organisations with which we liaise.
- ✓ Our products are safe and suitable for educational use. We will endeavour to maintain and improve the quality of our work and meet or exceed minimum published Standards – both within the UK and in relevant international markets – for all our products and services, where these exist.

Integrity

- ✓ We are committed to maintaining the highest degree of integrity in all our dealings with potential, current and past customers as well as other stakeholders.
- ✓ Everything we do as an industry will be with the aim of being in the best interests of learners, educators, parents and staff at educational establishments in the UK and across the world.
- ✓ We value our customers and promise a high standard of customer service and to deal promptly with any complaints.
- ✓ We will never offer any inappropriate financial or other inducement, including direct and indirect payments, offers of employment or substantial gifts or entertainment, to any person in an attempt to influence any decision-making process which may affect our organisation or our industry.

Transparency & Openness

- ✓ We are clear and precise about our identity and the nature of the products and services we are offering, and they will be fairly and properly described in advertising materials.
- ✓ We will be transparent about the costs and charges we make to our customers and these will be clearly stated in our T&Cs and the contracts we agree with them.
- ✓ We will use reasonable endeavours to ensure the truth and accuracy of any statements made or information provided to any third party in order to never knowingly make false or misleading claims or misrepresent the views of others.

Safeguarding & Data security

- ✓ We will ensure all staff are aware of safeguarding issues, and will endeavour to comply with any educational institution's safeguarding rules and regulations.
- ✓ We will seek to comply with all current and future data protection regulations in both the EU and the UK, and the relevant laws of countries we export to.
- ✓ We will seek to comply with the individual data sharing agreements of education institutions.

Discriminatory conduct

- ✓ We will strive to take reasonable care that all professional duties are conducted without causing offence on the grounds of gender, race, religion, disability or any other form of discrimination or unacceptable reference.

For further information, please visit www.besa.org.uk/code-of-practice

BESA Special Education Needs Group



MyCognition

JellyJames™



Becoming more inclusive

2021 – Published BESA's Principles of Diversity and Inclusion. Outlines our Aim, our intentions, our curriculum content and resources and our ways of working

Next steps:

Sharing UK SEN expertise internationally.

Continuous review of BESA's Code of Conduct from diversity and inclusion perspective.

Thinking about accessible procurement

To help learners with disabilities:

- Ensure frameworks have flexibility to adapt to learner needs.
- Allow schools/learners to trial products before they commit. www.LendED.org.uk
- Ensure technical specifications allow for necessary adaptation and flexibility for individual learners needs – one size does not fit all – multi-paced, learning.
- Empower learners, families and schools to support their communities with flexible approaches to learning – National Star College UK leads the way in grass-roots employment and learning.

To help improve participation of inclusive employers:

- Ensure tender timescales are clear and lengthy enough to all wide participation
- Ensure documentation is available in a wide-range of formats and engagement events are accessible
- Ensure tenders use wording that enables smaller inclusive organisations to tender, rather than specific language relating to particular awards or qualifications

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www.besa.org.uk

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