

Educator Solutions

Educator Solutions offers a comprehensive range of services to help those who are responsible for educating others tailor a solution to fit their particular requirements.

This includes;

- leadership and governance services for those that run establishments and organisations,
- improving skills and strategies for teaching,
- business resources such as financial management and human resources,
- a range of inspirational opportunities directly accessible for learners of all ages.

Background

Educator Solutions, recently known as Services 4 Schools (S4S) is a not-for-profit trading enterprise, wholly owned by Norfolk County Council and has built on a long history of experience in the education sector. It brings together expert staff from Norfolk Integrated Education Advisory Services (NIEAS), Schools HR and Finance, academy groups and other providers focussed on services for the wider education sector.

Our Vision is ***to be the provider of choice to education establishments in Norfolk and beyond.***

A portfolio of quality services

Educator Solutions employs over 375 permanent and seasonal staff who directly deliver a wide range of services to customers in educational establishments including academies, local authority maintained schools, special education needs and disabilities facilities, independent schools, colleges and charities.

We also support groups of establishments in multi-academy trusts, federations, clusters and other partnerships, setting up new forms of governance and helping with their effective operation once established.

Where services required are not directly available, then we facilitate access to a wide range of trusted partners from elsewhere to complete a specially tailored package of services that each customer requires to complement their own capabilities.

By providing good quality and value for money this ensures that together we can help improve the education experiences and opportunities for their learners.

Leadership and governance

A critical element of the performance of an educational establishment is the quality and decision making structure for the leadership. This includes Chairs of boards, Directors and Governors, whether employed or volunteers.

Educator Solutions provides a service to help recruit appropriate people from a variety of professional backgrounds, help them to understand their required roles and responsibilities specific to the education sector, and provide access to peer networks and continuous professional development.

In addition, Educator Solutions provides support resources including recruitment and training of professional Clerks to Governing bodies, or a clerking service if required.

One of the roles of governing bodies is to recruit, appoint and hold accountable the executive leadership, including the head teacher or principal, along with their senior leadership team. Educator Solutions also provides a recruitment service and advice and training for the leadership team in some of the skills that may be unfamiliar, such as staff leadership and complex employment issues, financial and performance management and strategic planning.

Educator Solutions has extensive experience in supporting the establishment of academies and multi-academy trusts. As the pace of academy conversion accelerates Educator Solutions is able to take a burden from the governing body, and project manage the work required to create a new trust fit for the particular objectives of the new partnership and support a sustainable operation going forward.

Supporting business excellence

Educator Solutions provides support packages and individual services to help Leadership teams, Business Managers and other support staff at education establishments to run their administrative functions efficiently. Our specialist advice, guidance and administration of financial budgeting and Human Resources can complement the capabilities of customers' staff. The aim is to help plan a sustainable business operation and allow academic staff to concentrate on the quality of their learners' experience.

We also provide training and qualifications for business staff to ensure that establishments are able to maximise the expertise they have and together with our wider network of partners, help them commission and procure services provided externally.

Help partners to improve teaching

Educator Solutions shares the ambition of education establishments to provide the best possible environment for learners to maximise their potential. By working with colleagues to understand the areas for improvement we can provide personalised advice, support and training for teachers.

Educator Solutions has the ability to supplement professional development for teachers for core subjects including Maths and English, specialist training for improving behaviour and accelerating progress of minority groups and integrated programmes for newly qualified teachers.

We have training centres at Kings Lynn and Norwich and are also happy to provide courses for groups at customer's own premises.

Resources directly available to learners

Educator Solutions is able to provide additional resources directly for use by learners to enrich their experience of learning or to provide additional support funded by the local authority, learning establishment or directly from parents or the public.

Norfolk Outdoors provides opportunities across a variety of settings, including;

- a residential centre set in 72 acres of beautiful Norfolk countryside at Holt Hall,
- Whitlingham Outdoor Education Centre, a multi-activity centre based close to Norwich but with a schools outreach programme,
- a training facility located at Norwich City Football Club which will soon be hosting a specialist STEM Centre.

For the organisers of school trips around the world, Educator Solutions provides specialist advice regarding locations, planning, administration and emergency support.

Norfolk Children's University is a programme allowing children aged 5 to 14 to access a wide variety of out-of-school learning opportunities including science projects, sports clubs and reading skills. By gathering credits, over 3,000 children were able to "graduate" at the UEA ceremony last year.

The Music Service provides access to young people to participate as groups or individuals, to try out musical instruments and set them on a path of learning or simply enjoying this ability. Working in conjunction with the Arts Council and education establishments it is hoped that every person that wants to, has access to making music.

Our trusted partners

In addition to these services provided directly by Educator Solutions, there are a number of additional services that education establishments require and we introduce a number of providers of these on our website. We also provide a combined on-line portal to make the procurement of these easier for customers.

Norfolk County Council services include; Norfolk Better to Best, ICT Shared Services, Broadband, Payroll, School Library Service, Health & Safety, Work placements, Admissions, NPLaw, Business Continuity, Media., Procurement, Norfolk Records office

Other NCC owned services; Norse catering, Grounds, Energy and Cleaning, NPS Property maintenance, ESPO procurement framework

Other; Engage (Short Stay School for Norfolk), School 2 School support

Management team

Educator Solutions is led by Stuart Mullineux and his senior leadership team of Alison Randall, Helen Wardale, Ian Cooper, Martin Radmore and Samantha Penn.