

Better value, delivered.



Early Years Furniture User Guide

Ref No: 1188

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Giving you a helping hand to choose the right
framework for your school





About YPO

We provides procurement solutions for public sector organisations to set up or renew contracts for a wide range of services.

Established in 1974 by a group of 13 local authorities, we're one of the largest public sector buying organisations in the UK and we're still 100% publicly-owned today.

We work closely with our suppliers and collaborate with other public sector buying organisations to achieve efficiencies and value for money, returning all our profits back into the heart of the public sector.

Our team of qualified procurement professionals can offer advice, guidance and expertise on procurement, as well as regular engagement and communication to make sure your objectives are achieved.





Framework overview

This is a contractual framework for the supply of early years furniture, incorporating a full space planning, design and support service to allow customers to procure a furniture solution that meets the specific needs of their early years setting.

Who can use this framework?

The Framework Agreement will be open to the entire public sector and other public bodies, such as Local Authorities, Education Establishments, Police Forces, Fire and Rescue Services, NHS Bodies, registered Charities within the UK and central government departments and their agencies that wish to use it. Any other organisation, including but not limited to, Privately Owned Nurseries, Registered Childcare Providers, Children’s centres, Preschools or Playgroups and Early Years Settings in receipt of public funding such as the 30 hours Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE), may utilise the resulting Framework Agreement from the commencement date.

Early Years Furniture Framework	
Period:	2 June 2023 - 01 June 2027
Extension Opportunities:	+ 2 years
Contracting authority (CA) call-off period:	CAs are free to decide the length of the call-off contract under this framework
Contract notice ref. no:	2023/S 000-008157
Contract award ref. no:	2023/S 000-018721
Corrigendum (if applicable):	Not applicable
Potential maximum value:	£4m
Rebate	1% paid by supplier/provider
Geographical location(s):	National





Specification, overview and lot structure

This framework has been designed to offer customers a choice of providers that offer similar product types at different price points and specifications. The framework has two lots with one supplier/provider awarded onto each lot:

Lot 1

Early years furniture – solid wood construction
Supplier/provider: Community Playthings

Lot 2

Early years furniture – MDF construction
Supplier/provider: Millhouse

Both suppliers/providers can offer a complete space planning and design service and have an extensive product range that includes:

- Tables and chairs
- Storage furniture
- Baby room furniture
- Easels
- Role play furniture
- Cloakroom
- Sand and water play furniture





Benefits of using our Early Years Furniture framework:

YPO's framework agreements are established to allow customers to purchase goods, works or services from suppliers/providers via direct award.

- Tailored solutions – full space planning, design and support services to create a bespoke furniture solution for your early years setting
- Reduced timescales – customers can direct award and do not need to run a full procurement if procuring via the framework agreement
- Ease of use – customers can deal directly with suppliers/providers
- Choice of supplier/provider – two suppliers/providers for customers to choose from
- Quality – all products comply with applicable legislative standards and quality requirements and are guaranteed for 15 years (lot 1) and 10 years (lot 2)
- Customer savings – discounts on current catalogue prices (lot 1 – 2%, lot 2 - 20%) when dealing direct with suppliers/providers and utilising the space planning and design service
- Legality – the framework is fully compliant and in line with the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015), as EU procurement rules introduced in 2006 specifically recognise framework agreements as a legitimate route to market. This reduces procurement risk for customers and reduces bureaucracy in the procurement process
- Assured supplier/provider standards – suppliers/providers appointed onto this framework are 'pre-qualified' as to their general suitability meaning customers can be assured that they can meet specified requirements
- Aggregation of spend – customers will receive the benefits of an aggregated volume of spend and the benefits associated with an increased leverage on the market
- Pre-defined terms and conditions – providers have agreed to YPO's standard framework agreement terms and conditions





Suppliers on this framework

LOT 1 Community Playthings

Since 1947 Community Playthings has designed and manufactured innovative durable solid wood furniture and playequipment, drawing on expertise from childcare professionals across the UK. Our products inspire play, support all aspects of child development and survive generations of wear and tear by active children. Everything comes with our standard 15-year warranty and 2-week delivery.

www.communityplaythings.co.uk

Tel: 0800 387 457

Email: sales@communityplaythings.co.uk



LOT 2 Millhouse

Millhouse have a proven track record in designing, manufacturing and supplying, manufacturing and supplying educational furniture for over 35 years. Based in Lincoln, all products are manufactured here in the UK to a high standard.

At Millhouse, we understand the requirements of an early years environment. We know that children need a secure, safe nurturing environment within which they can explore, learn and grow. Furthermore, we appreciate that the environment must be highly functional, flexible and built to last which is why we offer a full room planning service and all our products are guaranteed for 10 years.

www.spacerighteurope.com/millhouse

Tel: 07879 558 703

Email: Lalita@millhousedesign.co.uk





How to award/call-off from the framework

The call-off method for this framework is via direct award.

Customers can direct award to their preferred supplier/provider for any value as there are no minimum or maximum limits to the amount that can be purchased using the framework.

All customers wishing to utilise this framework must complete and return the Customer Access Agreement.

Customers are to contact either of the suppliers/providers named above directly to discuss their specific requirements, quoting ref: YPO1188 Framework agreement.

Framework agreement

In addition to offering competitive pricing, suppliers/providers were required to demonstrate their capabilities of delivering the requirements of this framework by answering a series of questions relating to quality, sustainability, delivery and customer service.

The award criteria/weightings used to establish this framework are detailed below:

Criterion	Percentage Weightings
Cost	40%
Quality	25%
Delivery and customer service	25%
Social Value / Sustainability	10%





Terms and conditions

Suppliers/providers awarded to the framework agreement have agreed to and signed YPO's standard Terms and Conditions. These can be amended by the CA and supplier/ provider by mutual agreement to include additional terms to supplement the standard Terms and Conditions. A variation form is included in the standard Terms and Conditions document to allow customers and suppliers/providers to amend any terms if required.

Contact information

For further information or to discuss individual requirements, please use the contact details below:

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Early Years Category Buyer

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