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Education  
Funding  
Agency

## 1. Reminder: maintained nursery school (MNS) data assurance

We've launched the maintained nursery school (MNS) data assurance exercise. This exercise will ensure the accuracy of data used in the MNS supplementary funding calculation in the early years national funding formula.

The exercise only applies to local authorities with maintained nursery schools. We have contacted these local authorities directly. We'll publish the [supporting guidance](#) on GOV.UK by Friday 17 March 2017.

The exercise will close on 30 March 2017.

Please contact us using the [EFA enquiry form](#) if you have any questions about this collection.

## 2. Information: network for school business management (SBM) professionals

The [Schools' buying strategy](#) was published recently and provides an opportunity for schools business management (SBM) and associated finance colleagues to either join or set up local SBM networks.

SBM networks are collaborating, saving money and making their schools more efficient in a difficult financial environment. DfE schools commercial team colleagues want to support you and facilitate best practice across all schools with an online forum and webinars.

Please email the [Schools Commercial Team](#) for more information or to register your interest in joining or setting up a local SBM network.

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