

# Government Procurement Card (GPC)

The Government Procurement Card or electronic purchasing card solution (ePCS) is an efficient way of purchasing many different types of goods and services such as books and stationery.

With effect from April 2011 schools are permitted to use this product subject to the 'Regulations and User Guidance Manual' and initial Governing Body approval.

## Application procedures

Schools should contact the Schools Finance Team in the first instance.

GPC Visa card issuers include:

Barclaycard Commercial

<http://www.barclaycard.co.uk/business/making-payments/public-sector/government-procurement-card/>

Other banks issue different type of purchasing/charge card and contact should be made with the individual bank concerned.

There are generally no card or transaction fees to pay but reference should be made to the card issuer.

## **Lloyds TSB Charge Card**

An alternative product that is available to schools that bank with Lloyds is the Business Charge Card. This works in a similar way to the GPC with expenditure debited to the school's bank account each month by way of Direct Debit. There is a charge of £32 per card per year as at January 2017.

To apply for this service you should speak to your relationship manager.