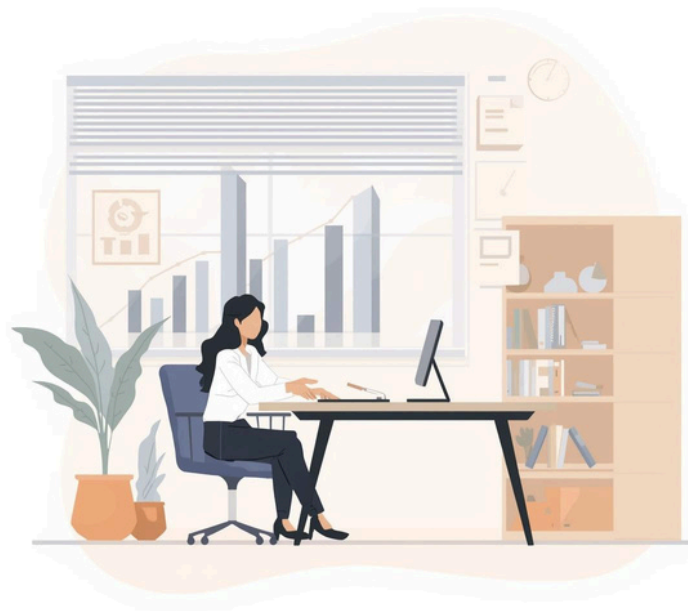


TUESDAY'S

TOP TIP



OUR WEEKLY DOSE OF SMART BUSINESS AND FINANCE TOP TIPS



Termly benchmarking against similar schools

Why?

Performance Insight

- Compare staffing ratios, spend per pupil, and outcomes
- Identify outliers for investigation

Efficiency

- Use DfE benchmarking tools
- Use Integrated curriculum financial planning
- Share findings with leaders and governors

Useful Resources

- DfE – Schools Financial Benchmarking and Insights Tool
- ISBL – ICFP ASOT Tool

Benefit

Conducting termly benchmarking enables schools to build a clearer picture of their financial and operational performance in the context of similar institutions. By routinely comparing key metrics such as staffing structures, expenditure patterns, and cost-per-pupil leaders can quickly identify inefficiencies, emerging risks, and areas where resources may not be aligned to priorities.

Benchmarking also supports more evidence-based decision-making. Leaders and governors gain stronger assurance that budgets, staffing models, and curriculum plans are proportionate and sustainable. Highlighting variances against similar schools encourages productive challenge, deeper scrutiny, and more transparent financial conversations.

 Office@ShardBusinessServices.co.uk

 ShardBusinessServices.co.uk