

Academies Update Conference

- How to win Academy work
- Top tax tips
- Know your client - hear from Academies themselves
- The latest VAT position
- Findings from recently filed Academy accounts
- Legal update
- Auditing Academy expenditure



The Midlands

27 March 2012

Hilton National, East Midlands

Full Day Conference £265

(including lunch) plus VAT per person

£50 for MembershipPLUS 25% Discount for Members



Academies Update Conference

27 March 2012

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A number of technical areas have moved on since our Academies conferences in 2011. You may have attended last year and would like an update, or maybe you are new to Academy engagements, either way, do not miss your opportunity to hear the latest position for Academies. Our full day conference is aimed at Partners and Senior Managers in practice who are seeking to advise Academies.



9.30am

Welcome by Conference Chairperson

9.35am

Winning your First Academy Engagement

Gill Freeman, Milsted Langdon

It can be tough winning those first few engagements in a new area where your firm has limited experience. Gill will share her experience of successfully tendering and winning work in this new field of work.

10.00am

HMRC 0 - Educational Academicals 10

Mark Morton, Mercia Group Limited

Some top tips to avoid tax problems for Academies and keep the taxman away

10.30am

Tales from a Recent Conversion

Liz Coates, Governor at Bushloe High School

Liz is currently assisting with an Academy conversion. She will share experiences from the Bushloe High School and other current local Academy conversions

10.50am **Coffee**

11.10am

Academy Financial Reporting Pitfalls

David Smith, Mercia Group Limited

David will present findings from a review of filed Academy accounts from 2011, highlighting key disclosure and financial reporting issues that you should be aware of when advising your clients.

12.00pm

VAT: Where are we now?

Neil Owen, VAT Advisory Services Limited

Neil will cover the following:

- To register or not to register
- The sports facilities debate
- Attribution of inputs: how accurate and specific?
- Secondment of staff: where are we now?
- Capital improvements: the dangers
- Topical tips and updates

1.00pm **Lunch**

2.00pm

Know your Client - Hear from an Academy

Lynn Reeve, The Long Eaton School

Having just experienced their first year end as an Academy, Lynn is well equipped to share her thoughts on ways you can assist your clients

2.30pm

Q&A

Your opportunity to ask our panel of speakers questions.

3.00pm **Tea**

3.15pm

Academies - A Legal Update for Accountants

Mark Small, Partner, Baker Small Solicitors

Mark will discuss recent legal changes and updates affecting Academies.

3.45pm

Auditing Academy Expenditure

David Smith, Mercia Group Limited

David will look at key audit issues relating to the use of Academy funding including the potential for regularity reporting in the academies sector and what this would entail.

4.30pm

Close of conference

CPD Hours: 6



Mercia is recognised by the ACCA as an approved training provider. All of our courses qualify for CPD hours as required by all UK accountancy bodies.

25% discount for Members

A 25% discount on the total price will be given to all firms who pay an annual subscription (based upon the size of their practice) to belong to a Mercia training group. This does not include firms who buy season tickets. For further information please contact Sarah Moore.

£50 for MembershipPLUS

If you are a MembershipPLUS firm the cost of attending this conference is £50 plus VAT per place.

Enrol online at www.mercia-group.co.uk

Speakers

Liz Coates

Liz is a governor at Bushloe High School and is currently assisting with their conversion to Academy status. Until retirement in July 2011 Liz was Training Director of Mercia and was responsible for all of our training events.

Gill Freeman

Gill Freeman joined Milsted Langdon in July 2005 after training with a top ten national firm of accountants and became a partner in May 2011. Throughout her career, Gill has worked with owner-managed business across a wide range of sectors. She has been advising clients in the charities sector since 1989, has wide-ranging experience in the education sector and a number of Academy clients. Gill also lectures regularly, both internally and externally, on technical subjects.

Mark Morton BA CA ATT

Mark joined HMRC in 1989 and undertook their full training exams. In 1996 he was made Deputy District Inspector for the Derby area and had detailed experience of all types of Revenue enquiries. Mark joined Mercia as an experienced lecturer and now provides a wide variety of CPD training around the country. He is also a well known contributor to professional publications and provides technical consultancy to the accountancy profession.

Neil Owen BA FTII AIIT FBIAC

Neil Owen is an independent consultant, speaker and writer. He has specialised exclusively in VAT for well over twenty-five years, initially working for Customs & Excise and entering professional practice in 1990. Neil is an experienced and enthusiastic lecturer, with the unusual reputation for making VAT interesting.

Lynn Reeve

Lynn has worked at The Long Eaton School since June 2010 and before this worked at Bennerley Business and Enterprise College and Kirk Hallam Community Technology and Sports College. Previous to this Lynn worked for Ernst & Young for eight years in the audit department.

Mark Small LLB (Hons), Dip.L.G

Mark is a solicitor and has experience of the public sector having represented parents, schools and local authorities in a range of disputes. Before setting up Baker Small, Mark was a senior manager in a highly regarded in-house legal practice. He advises on all areas of education, litigation, public law and employment law and regularly handles a range of matters including Governance issues including school expansions and Academy start up.

David Smith FCCA

David joined Mercia's technical team in 2010 where he lectures on a range of audit and accounts courses. Prior to joining Mercia, David managed a varied portfolio of audit and accounts clients at Grant Thornton. He is a member of Mercia's Audit Manual Committee and is responsible for the Mercia Academies Specialist Assignment Manual.

Venue & Timings

The Midlands

The Hilton National, Junction 24, M1, Derby Road, Castle Donington, Derby DE74 2YW (Sat Nav DE74 2SL)
Tel: 01509 674000

27 March 2012
9.30am - 4.30pm

Booking Form

I would like to book places on the Academies Update Conference as follows:

A total of _____ places @ £265	£	
Less 25% discount for Members*	£	
A total of _____ places @ £50 for MembershipPLUS	£	
Sub total	£	
Plus VAT @ 20%	£	
TOTAL	£	

Contact name		
Name of firm		
Address		
	Postcode	
Telephone		
Email		
Delegate Name(s)		

- Please invoice my firm. I understand the usual 30 day credit terms apply
- I enclose a cheque for £ _____ made payable to Mercia Group Limited
- I would like to receive more information about Membership/MembershipPLUS

*CPD members - 25% discount vouchers will be allocated to these bookings, if appropriate, unless you indicate otherwise.

Confirmation: An email confirming your booking will be sent to our enrolment or main contact. Joining instructions will be sent by email 10 days before the date of the event you are booked on to. Cancellations: No refund will be made where cancellation is received less than 14 days before the date of the course. All other cancellations will be subject to a £25 administration charge. All cancellations must be in writing.

If you would like any information regarding accommodation for this event, please contact Sarah Moore on 0116 258 1200.



Please return to:
Mercia Group Ltd

Best House Grange Business Park Enderby Road
Whetstone Leicester LE8 6EP
t 0116 258 1200 f 0116 258 1250
enrolments@mercia-group.co.uk
www.mercia-group.co.uk

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For further details on this conference please contact Emily Bailey on 0116 258 1200



Mercia Group Ltd
Best House, Grange Business Park
Enderby Road
Whetstone
Leicester LE8 6EP
t 0116 258 1200
f 0116 258 1250
enquiries@mercia-group.co.uk
www.mercia-group.co.uk



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