

Jargon Buster

Most professions have their own jargon, and education is certainly no exception. In fact, teachers and school administrators often use acronyms, initials and abbreviations in our everyday communication. Without any intention, we have been told that this is sometimes confusing and frustrating to parents and community members.

As a result, we have created this list to inform and educate. The attached list of acronyms is by no means all-inclusive but it does contain many of the common generic educational terms.

We hope that you find this a useful resource. As always, your input is welcome and appreciated.

Academy	Academies are independent state-funded schools. These schools are funded directly by central government rather than the local authority
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
DBS	Disclosure and Barring Service – a DBS certificate replaces CRB certificate
DfE	The Department for Education - they are responsible for education and children’s services in England
EAL	English as an Additional Language – refers to children whose first language is not English and who may not speak English fluently or even at all.
EBD	Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties
EWO	Education Welfare officer
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage – A framework for care and education of children from birth to 5 years of age
FMS	Free School Meals - Pupils who are entitled to free school meals. The criteria for this is set out by the local authority
G & T	Gifted and Talented
Genres	A type of text e.g. diary writing, non-chronological reports, stories with a familiar setting
HLTA	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
INSET	In Service education and Training – Training for teachers and support staff which takes place during the school year
ITT	Initial Teacher Training
KS1	Key Stage 1 - years 1 and 2 -5-7 year old
KS2	Key Stage 2 – Years 3,4,5 and 6 -7 – 11 year olds
LA	Local Authority
LSA	Learning Support Assistant – LSA’s provide support and care on a one to one basis, small groups or in the classroom
MLD	Moderate Learning Difficulties
NOR	Number on Roll
NPQH	National Professional Qualification for Headship
NQT	Newly Qualified Teacher
Ofsted	The Office for Standards in Education. This is an independent organisation which reports directly to Parliament. Ofsted inspects and regulates services, which care for children and young people and those providing education and skills for learning of all ages. Ofsted sets out to raise standards in British schools through regular inspections
PE	Physical Education – teaching of physical education, including games, athletics
PPA	Planning Preparation and Assessment time. PPA release time for teachers to complete the stated tasks
PSHE	Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education
QTS	Qualified Teacher Status
RE	Religious Education
SAT’s	Standard Attainment Tasks/Tests
SEND	Special Educational Needs/Disabilities
SENDCO	Special Educational Needs Coordinator
SMSC	Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development