



Jargon buster for SEND – your guide to SEND terms and acronyms

Acronym	Information
ASD ASC	Autism Spectrum Disorder also referred to as Autism Spectrum Condition <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A special education need which impacts on social communication, social interaction, interests, and behaviour
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A special education need which affects concentration and the ability to focus
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A behavioural disorder which includes symptoms such as inattentiveness, hyperactivity, and impulsiveness
ARP	Additional Resource Provision <ul style="list-style-type: none">- An umbrella term for a wide range of provision where the Local Authority contracts resources in addition to those provided by the school
BSL	British Sign Language <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The most common sign language used by deaf people in the UK
BSP	Behaviour Support Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A school document which is created to help a pupil with behavioural difficulties
CAMHS	Child And Mental Health Service <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The term for all services working with children and young people who have difficulties with their emotional or behavioural wellbeing
CAF	Common Assessment Framework <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Professionals complete this form as the first step to assess the needs a child or young person may have
CFA	Children and Families Act (2014) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The law which introduced the current system of supporting children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities
COP	Code Of Practice <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A government document that schools, EYFS settings and local authorities follow when identifying children with SEN and meeting their needs
DDA	Disabilities Discrimination Act <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lays out the duty on employers and service providers to make reasonable adjustments for people with disabilities
DLA	Disability Living Allowance <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A benefit which can be claimed by the family of a child with special needs
EB(S)D	Emotional, Behavioural (and Social) Difficulties <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A condition in which behaviour or emotional response of a child adversely affect their performance at school.
EHCP	Education, Health, and Care Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">- This plan outlines educational needs a child has and the provision that the local authority must put in place to help them



Jargon buster for SEND – your guide to SEND terms and acronyms

EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The standards for learning, development, and care of a child from birth to 5 years old
FMS	Fine Motor Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The co-ordination of small muscles and the eyes, such as buttoning clothes
GMS	Gross Motor Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Larger movements made with the arms, legs, feet, or the entire body, such as running or jumping
GDD	Global Developmental Delay <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The term used when a child has not met two or more milestones in all areas of development
HI	Hearing Impairment <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Partial or total inability to hear
IASS	Information, Advice and Support Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A provider of independent and impartial advice to parts of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities
IPP	Individual Pupil Profile <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A document which contains a series of observations and assessments on a child's strengths, weaknesses, and special educational needs
LA	Local Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The body responsible for public services such as libraries, schools, parks, and child protection
LD	Learning Difficulties <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Difficulties in acquiring knowledge and skills to the normal level expected of those of the same age, especially because of a mental disability or cognitive disorder
LO	Local Offer <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The SEND local offer is provided by the Local Authority and gives information for parents in a single place
LSA	Learning Support Assistant <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A member of staff in a school provided to support teachers and pupils in the classroom
LAC	Looked After Child <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The term for a child who is looked after by the local authority
MLD	Moderate Learning Difficulties <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The umbrella term used to describe children who have cognitive ability and attainment levels significantly lower than their peers
MSI	Multi-Sensory Impairment <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pupils with MSI have a combination of visual and hearing difficulties
OCD	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder <ul style="list-style-type: none">- OCD is an anxiety disorder characterised by unwanted thoughts and repetitive activities



Jargon buster for SEND – your guide to SEND terms and acronyms

ODD	Oppositional Defiant Disorder <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A disorder that is defined by a pattern of hostile, disobedient, and defiant behaviours
OT	Occupational Therapist <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A therapist who provides support to people whose health prevents them from doing certain activities
OFSTED	Office For Standards in Education <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A non-ministerial department of the government which is responsible
PCP	Person-Centred Planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A way of planning that sees people using health and social services as equal partners in the development and monitoring of their care to ensure it meets their needs
PD	Physical Disability <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A limitation on a person's physical functioning, mobility, dexterity, or stamina
PDA	Pathological Demand Avoidance <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A condition characterised by an overwhelming need to avoid or resist demands
PMLD	Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Children with PMLD have complex learning needs and may also have other significant difficulties such physical disabilities or sensory impairment
PFA	Preparation For Adulthood <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A section in the Code of Practice which lays out the need for local authorities and their partners to work together with young people to help them achieve successful outcomes in the long term
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A type of school which caters for children who are not able to attend a mainstream school because they require greater care and support than their school can provide
PSP	Pastoral Support Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A school-based programme which is designed to help a child improve their social, emotional, and behavioural skills
SALT	Speech And Language Therapist <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A member of support staff who provides treatment for children who have difficulties with communication
SEND	Special Education Needs and Disability <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The umbrella term for children who have a learning difficulty and/or a disability that means they need special health and education support
SEN(D)CO	Special Education Needs (and Disability) Co-Ordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The teacher who is responsible for special education needs and disability provision in a school
SLD	Severe Learning Disabilities <ul style="list-style-type: none">- A very significant intellectual or cognitive impairment that impacts a person's ability to live independently



Jargon buster for SEND – your guide to SEND terms and acronyms

SLCN	Speech, Language and Communication Needs <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Children with SLCN may have a single specific language impairment or experience secondary communication needs resulting from another condition
SpLD	Specific Learning Disability <ul style="list-style-type: none">- An umbrella term which indicates a child may display differences across their learning, some areas are below their performance in other areas
VI	Visual Impairment <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Decreased or total inability to see