



Common SEND Acronyms and Phrases

Acronym/phrases	Definition
Academy School	A School that is run by an Academy Trust
Access Arrangements	Access arrangements are special arrangements or reasonable adjustments which some children and young people with SEND are entitled to in their public exams (e.g. GCSE's, SATs) this is so students can demonstrate their ability in an area without their disability being a barrier.
ADOS	Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule- a standardised diagnostic test for autism.
Annual Health Checks	A health check that takes place annually for those aged 14+ with a learning disability.
Annual Review	Review of an EHCP that MUST occur at least annually
AP	Alternative Provision
APDR	Assess, Plan, Do, Review- this is a cycle that forms that graduated approach schools should follow (as per the SEND Code of Practice) to support children and young people with SEND.
Area of Need	This is the name for the 4 main categories used to describe a child/young person's SEND. They are: cognition and learning, communication and interaction, social emotional and mental health, sensory and physical.



Acronym/phrases	Definition
ARP	Additional Resource Provision, attached to or within mainstream schools, where pupils are either withdrawn to a resource for specialist input or teachers from the resource deliver specialist help to the child within the classroom.
Care Plan	A record of the health and/or social care services that are being provided to a child or young person to help them manage a disability or health condition. Care Plans are also maintained by local authorities for looked after children, in this instance the Care Plan will contain a Personal Education Plan in addition to the health and social care elements.
SEPS	Solihull Educational Psychology Service
CFA	Children and Families Act 2014- the legal framework. https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/contents/enacted
Child in Need	A Child in Need is defined under the Children Act 1989 as a child who is unlikely to reach or maintain a satisfactory level of health or development, or their health or development will be significantly impaired without the provision of children's social care services, or the child is disabled.
Children's Disability Team	Team within Children's Social Care that work with children with disabilities
Children's Services	Children's Social Care



Acronym/phrases	Definition
CME	Children Missing Education
Compulsory School Age	A child is of compulsory school age from the beginning of the term following their 5th birthday, until the last Friday of June of the year in which they become 16 provided that their 16th birthday falls before the start of the next school year.
CoP	SEND Code of Practice 2015- guidance on how to identify, assess and provide for children with SEN
CP	Child Protection
CPP	Child Protection Plan
CQC	Care Quality Commission- regulate and inspect health and social care services.
CYP	Children and Young People
DBS	Disclosure and Barring Service (used to check criminal records and check for suitability to work with vulnerable people)
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act- https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2005/13/contents
DfE	Department for Education



Acronym/phrases	Definition
Disabled Students Allowance	An allowance for undergraduate or postgraduate students who have a disability or long-term health condition, mental health condition or specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia or dyspraxia which affects their ability to study. It can pay for things such as special equipment, a note-taker or transport costs.
Disagreement Resolution.	LA's must provide independent disagreement resolution to help parents and young people resolve disputes with local authorities, schools and other settings about SEND duties and provision.
DLA	Disability Living Allowance- a disability benefit for under 16 year olds
EAL	English as an Additional Language
EBSN	Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance
Education Inclusion Team	The Team within the Local Authority who support inclusion.
EHCNA	Education , Health and Care Needs Assessment
EHCP	Education, Health and Care Plan- this is a plan for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support. EHC plans identify educational, health and social care needs and set out the additional support to meet those needs. It is a legal document written by the local authority.



Acronym/phrases	Definition
EHCP Mediation	A confidential process that aims to help resolve disputes/disagreements within the EHCP process by a neutral, trained mediator.
EHE	Elective Home Education, is a term used to describe a choice by parents to provide education for their child/children at home. A child who is EHE will not be on the role of any school.
EOTIC	Education Other Than In College
EOTIS	Education Other Than In School
EP	Educational Psychology
EqA	Equality Act 2010- https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents
EY Team	Early Years Team
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage, covers children from birth to age 5. The foundation stage continues until the end of the reception year.
FE	Further Education (College- 16-18 typically)
Free school	A type of academy which is free to attend but is not controlled by the local authority.



Acronym/phrases	Definition
Governing Body	The governors who have overall responsibility for the school
Graduated Approach	The SEND Code of Practice states that schools should follow a graduated approach when providing SEND Support, this is based on a cycle of: Assess, Plan, Do, Review
High Needs Funding and High Needs Top up Funding.	High Needs funding is the funding that the LA use to pay for special school places. High needs top-up funding is additional funding paid directly by the LA for some high needs pupils.
ICB	Integrated Care Board- and organisation responsible for developing a plan for meeting the health needs of the population, managing the NHS budget and arranging for the provision of health services in the ICS area.
ICP	Integrated Care Partnership- a committee jointly formed between the ICB and the upper-tier local authorities that fall within the ICS area. The ICP brings together a wide alliance of partners concerned with improving the care, health and wellbeing of the population.
ICS	Integrated Care System-partnerships of organisations that come together to deliver joined up health and care services and to improve lives of people who live and work in their area.
IEP	Individual Education Plan
Independent School	A school that is not maintained by a local authority and is registered under part 4 of the Education and Skills Act 2008. Section 347 of the Act sets out the conditions under which an independent school may be approved by the Secretary of State for Education as being suitable for the admission of children with EHCPs.



Acronym/phrases	Definition
KS1	Years 1 and 2 at school
KS2	Years 3 to 6 at school
KS3	Years 7 to 9 at school
KS4	Years 10 and 11
LA	Local Authority
LAC	Looked After Children
LDA	Learning Disability and Autism
Local Offer	An information directory where individuals with SEND as well as their parent carers can find out what support or provision they can expect to be available in their local area.
LSA	Learning Support Assistant
LSCP	Local Safeguarding Children Partnership- bringing together health (ICB) the police and the local authority, for strategic decision making and to hold each other to account.
Mainstream	A schools that provides education for all children, whether or not they have special educational needs or disabilities.
Maintained School	Schools in England that are funded by a local authority, including community, foundation or voluntary schools, community special schools or foundation special schools.
Managed Move	changing to a different school, arranged by the school. This should ONLY be done if the parent and the LA agree that it is in the best interest of the child/young person



Acronym/phrases	Definition
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
MAT	Multi-Academy Trust
MLD	Moderate Learning Difficulty
MSI	Multi-Sensory Impairment
NASEN	National Association for Special Educational Needs
National Curriculum	Programmes of study that must be followed by maintained schools
OFSTED	Office for Standards in Education -inspects and advises on schools and colleges.
OT	Occupational Therapy
Outcome	Outcomes describe the difference that will be made to a child or young person as a result of special educational and other provision. Outcomes must be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound.
Panel	A multi-disciplinary group that meet to advise on decisions regarding EHCP's
Parent Carer Forum	A PCF is a representative local group of parents and carers of children and young people with SEND, who work with local authorities, education, health and other providers wo make sure that the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of children and young people with SEND and their families. In Solihull the PCF is Solihull Parent Carer Voice.
Parental Responsibility	Parental responsibility is defined under Section 3 (1) of the Children Act 1989 as meaning the duties, rights, powers, responsibilities and authority which parents have with respect to their children and children's property.



Acronym/phrases	Definition
PECS	Picture Exchange Communication System, an approach to developing communication skills using pictures.
Performance levels	P Levels are used to assess the progress of children between the ages of 5-14 who have SEND and whose abilities do not yet reach Key Stage level 1 of the National Curriculum.
Person-centred planning	Aims to put children and young people at the centre of planning and decisions that affect them.
PfA	Preparation for Adulthood.
Post-16	Generally refers to provision for young people aged 16+, often refers to colleges.
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit, a school which is specially organised to provide education for pupils who would otherwise not receive suitable education because of illness, exclusion or any other reason.
Quality First Teaching	The SEND Code of Practice, recognises high-quality teaching as being personalised and says that special educational provision is underpinned by quality first teaching.
Reasonable Adjustments	Schools and education authorities have a duty to provide reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils since 2002 (originally under the Disability Discrimination Act 1995) and since October 2010 under the Equality Act 2010.



Acronym/phrases	Definition
SALT	Speech and Language Therapists
SEMH	Social, Emotional and Mental Health
SEN Support	The support schools must provide for children and young people with SEND.
SENCO	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator- must be a teacher in a school who coordinates SEN provision.
SEN/D	Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities- definition of SEN/D can be found in law in the Children and Families Act 2014, Part 3 section 20. https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/6/part/3/enacted
SEND Information Report	All schools must publish on their websites information about their policy and arrangements for supporting children with SEN. This must be kept up to date.
SEND Regs	Special Educational Needs and Disability Regulations 2014. https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2014/1530/contents/made
Sendias	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Advice and Support Service (independent advice for parent carers)
SENDIST	SEND Tribunal service- an independent body that determines appeals by parents against LA decisions on EHCP's



Acronym/phrases	Definition
SLCN	Speech, Language and Communication Needs
SLD	Severe Learning Difficulties
Specialist	A school that provides an education for children with a special educational need of disability. There are many different types of special school, focusing on different types of need, however they all educate children whose needs cannot be met within a mainstream setting.
SpLD	Specific Learning Disability
TA	Teaching Assistant
Transition	This can be any change for a child/young person but is commonly talked about when preparing to move from one school year to another, from one school to another (e.g. primary to secondary) or from school to college