

SEND Acronyms and Glossary

Full Title	Acronym	Description/Definition
Attention Deficit Disorder	ADD	ADD is a condition that includes symptoms, such as inattentiveness and impulsiveness.
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	ADHD	ADHD is a condition that includes symptoms, such as inattentiveness, hyperactivity and impulsiveness.
Autism Spectrum Disorder/Condition	ASD or ASC	ASD/ASC is a neurodevelopmental disorder that can affect how a person communicates and relates with others, as well as how they experience the world around them. No two people with ASD/ASC will have the same difficulties.
British Sign Language	BSL	BSL is the sign language of the British Deaf community. BSL has its own grammatical structure and syntax.
Children and Mental Health Service	CAMHS	CAMHS is the name for the NHS services that assess and treat young people with emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties.
Developmental Coordination Disorder or Dyspraxia	DCD	DCD is a common disorder affecting fine and/or gross motor coordination in children and adults.
Dyscalculia		Dyscalculia is a specific and persistent difficulty in understanding numbers which can lead to a diverse range of difficulties with mathematics.
Dyslexia		Dyslexia is a learning difficulty that primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling. Characteristic features of dyslexia are difficulties in phonological awareness, verbal memory and verbal processing speed.
Educational Health and Care Plan	EHCP	An EHCP is for children and young people aged up to 25 who need more support than is available through special educational needs support. EHCPs identify educational, health and social needs and set out additional support to meet those needs.
Foetal Alcohol Syndrome	FASD	Foetal alcohol syndrome is a type of foetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD); the name for all the various problems that can affect children if their mother drinks alcohol during pregnancy.



Global Learning Delay	GLD	GLD is the term used when a child takes longer to reach certain development milestones than other children their age. This might include learning to walk or talk, movement skills, learning new things and interacting with others socially and emotionally.
Hearing Impairment	HI	Hearing impairment occurs when there is a problem with - or damage to - one or more parts of the ear.
Intervention		This is targeted, individualised support for pupils who are working below age-related expectations.
Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	OCD	OCD is a common mental health condition where a person has obsessive thoughts and compulsive behaviours.
Occupational Therapist	OT	An OT helps people overcome all kinds of challenges so they can improve their ability to do everyday tasks.
One Page Profile		A one page profile captures all the important information about a person on a single sheet of paper.
Oppositional Defiance Disorder	ODD	ODD is a way of describing when a young person develops a pattern of negative behaviour towards authority figures, like teachers or parents. Children with ODD find it difficult to do what they are told. They might blame others for their mistakes and lose their temper easily.
Pathological Demand Avoidance	PDA	PDA describes those who avoid everyday demands and expectations to an extreme extent.
Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties	PMLD	PMLD is when a person has a severe learning disability and other disabilities that significantly affect their ability to communicate and be independent. Someone with PMLD may have severe difficulties seeing, hearing, speaking and moving.
Sensory Processing Disorder	SPD	SPD is a condition that affects how the brain processes sensory information. SPD usually means an over or under sensitivity to stimuli.
Special Educational Needs and Disability	SEND	SEND describes a child or young person if they have a learning difficulty and/or a disability that means they need special health and education support.



Specific Learning Difficulty	SpLD	SpLD is a difference or difficulty with a particular aspect of learning. Examples of a SpLD are dyslexia, dyspraxia, dyscalculia, ADHD and ADD.
Speech and Language Therapist	SALT	Speech and language therapists provide treatment, support and care for children and adults who have difficulties with communication, eating, drinking and swallowing.
Team Around the Family	TAF	A TAF meeting is a meeting between a child/ young person, their family and the group of practitioners who are working with them. The meeting provides an opportunity to consider how appropriate, effective and timely support can be provided so that the family's needs are met.
Visual Impairment	VI	VI is a term used to describe any kind of vision loss, whether it's someone who cannot see at all or someone who is partially sighted.

