



SEN acronyms

The SEN process can be full of abbreviations and acronyms which can make it difficult to understand. To help, we've compiled a list of some of the most common SEN abbreviations.

ADD - Attention deficit disorder

ADHD - Attention deficit and hyperactivity disorder

AET - Autism Education Trust

AP - Alternative provision

AR - Annual review

BSL - British Sign Language

CAMHS - Child and adolescent mental health service,

CBT - Cognitive behavioural therapy

CIN - Child in need

CME - Child missing education

CoP - Code of practice

CP - Child protection

CPM - Costed provision map

CQC - Care Quality Commission

CYP - Children and young people

DD - Disability discrimination

DfE - The Department of Education

DLD – Developmental Language Disorder

EAL - English as an additional language



EBSA - Emotional Based School Anxiety

EHC - Education, health and care

EHCNA - Education, health and care needs assessment

EHCP - Education, health and care plan

EHE - Elective home education

EP - Educational psychologist

EPS - Educational Psychology Service

EWO - Education welfare officer

EYFS - Early years foundation stage

FSM - Free school meals

FSW - Family Support Worker

HI - Hearing impairment

HLTA - Higher level teaching assistant

HV - Health visitor

ICP - Integrated care partnership

IEP – Individual Education Plan

KS - Key stage

LA - Local authority

LAC - Looked-after child

LEA - Local educational authority

LO - Local offer

LSA - Learning support assistant

LSS - Learning support service



MARF - Multi-Agency Referral Form

MH - Mental health

MLD - Moderate learning difficulties

ND - Neurodiversity

NDP - Neurodiversity Practitioner

OAP - Ordinary available provision

OLA – Orchard Learning Alliance

OCD - Obsessive compulsory disorder

ODD - Oppositional defiant disorder

OFSTED - Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills

OT - Occupational therapy / occupational therapist

PD - Physical disability

PDA - Pathological demand avoidance

PFA - Preparing for adulthood

PINS - Partnerships for inclusion of neurodiversity in schools programme

PMLD - Profound and multiple learning difficulties

PP - Pupil Premium

PRU - Pupil referral unit

SALT/ SLT - Speech and language therapy/ therapist

SC - Social care

SEMH - Social emotional and mental health

SEN - Special educational needs

SENCO - Special educational needs co-ordinator



SEND - Special educational needs and / or disability

SENDCO - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator

SEND CoP - Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practise

SENDIASS - Special Educational Needs & Disabilities Information Advice & Support Service

SENDIST - Special educational needs and disability tribunal

SI - Sensory impairment

SLCN - Speech language and communication needs

SLD - Severe learning difficulties

SpLD - Specific learning difficulties

SW - Social worker

TAF - Team around the family

VI - Visual impairment (loss of sight)

VS - Virtual School

YP - Young people / young person