

Special Needs & Disability - Jargon Buster

The Local Offer and School Information Reports are written in a way that tries to avoid jargon. However, sometimes abbreviations or unusual phrases are used. We want you to be able to fully understand what you read. That's why this glossary has been created.

The definitions could go into more depth. We could include even more definitions. However, we have tried to keep this a manageable size for parents & carers. For further details, family information and support services are listed on Wakefield's Local Offer website.

As jargon changes, this document needs to change. Comments or suggestions from parents and carers are very welcome. These can be submitted via the Wakefield Local Offer website.

ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder – A condition more commonly found in children than adults. Individuals with ADHD present as overactive, impulsive and inattentive. It is caused by chemical imbalances in the brain.
Advisory Teacher	A specialist teacher who visits schools, colleges and early years settings to give advice on special needs provision.
Annual Review	A meeting held every year which updates a child's statement or EHC plan (See statement and EHC plan definitions).
ASD / ASC	Autistic Spectrum Disorder / Autistic Spectrum Condition - These are two names for the same condition. ASD affects an individual's social skills, language development and thought processes. Often, it affects a child's sensory processing.
ASDAN	This refers to a programme/qualification that focuses on skills for learning, skills for employment and skills for life. It is often used for young people from Y9 upwards who would benefit.
AWPU	Age-Weighted Pupil Unit – The money given to a school for each pupil. The value of this varies depending on a child's age.
BAME	Black & Asian and Minority Ethnic.

BSP	Behaviour Support Plan – a document that outlines how a child behaves and the best responses that adults can give.
BEST	Behaviour and Exclusion Support Team.
CAF	Common Assessment Framework – this is an assessment and then a series of meetings. It helps to co-ordinate team work for children and families. It includes the parent(s), school and any other professionals involved.
CAF Meeting	A meeting of people who are involved with a child/young person. This meeting discusses the current situation and plans actions that have a positive impact on the youngster(s).
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service - the NHS team whose remit includes mental health of those under 18.
CIAT	<p>Communication, Interaction and Access Team – Wakefield Council’s service for children and young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With an autistic spectrum difficulty, or • With a social communication need, or • With a speech language communication need, or • With a physical difficulty.
Differentiation	Teachers adapting lessons to suit the learning needs of groups or individuals within the class (e.g. adjusting the difficulty of a task, providing adult support, or finding using a Dictaphone to record ideas instead of writing.)
EAL	English as an Additional Language.
EARLY HELP HUB	A ‘hub’ of workers who support children and families when a child is vulnerable or at risk of harm.
EHC Plan	Education, Health, Care Plan - This is a legal document that outlines a child’s SEN or disability. It outlines what outcomes the child is working towards. It also gives an overview of what will happen (this is called the provision) to achieve the outcomes. It also says how education services, health services and care services are going to

	contribute. EHC plans were introduced in Sept 2014 onwards. They replace statements (see definition of statements below). The replacement of statements with EHC plans will be completed by 2018.
EP	Educational Psychologist – this is a specialist in child development and child psychology.
EPS	Educational Psychology Service.
EWO	Education Welfare Officer. A professional worker who visits pupils' homes to support attendance problems and other welfare matters in co-operation with the school.
Exclusion	The temporary or permanent banning of a pupil from school.
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education – a standard qualification used by many English schools to recognise achievement of Y11 students.
IEP	Individual Education Plan – a written plan that sets targets for a child. Most IEPs are reviewed after several months. However, they are sometimes reviewed after 4 or 6 weeks.
INSET	In-Service Education and Training – courses and training for school staff.
LA	Local Authority – the public sector organisation that runs local education services. In Wakefield District, it is Wakefield Council.
LAC	Looked After Child – A child who is fostered, or who lives in a children's home or who has short breaks (short breaks were previously known as respite).
Lead Professional	The key person who organises a CAF and CIN meetings.
LSS	Learning Support Service.

MDA	Multi-Disciplinary Assessment – an assessment done by a range of health or education experts. The assessment will determine whether a child has autism or not. This is sometimes referred to as MDT (Multi-Disciplinary Team)
MLD	Moderate Learning Difficulties.
MSP	My Support Plan – A plan that looks at the needs of the child and outlines what everyone is going to do to help meet these needs.
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training – A youngster, older than 16 who is not engaged in learning or work.
OFSTED	Office for Standards in Education – the independent government department that inspects school standards in England.
One Page Profile	A pupil profile that fits onto one page – it outlines a child’s needs and how to support that child.
OT	Occupational Therapy / Occupational Therapist – A specialist NHS worker who is an expert in movement, co-ordination and sensory needs.
Peripatetic teacher	A teacher who works in a number of schools to give specialist instruction (e.g. for a child who is visually impaired)
PMLD	Profound and multiple learning difficulties
PN / PD	Physical needs / Physical disability
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit – a unit for children with complex special needs. PRUs usually meet the needs of youngsters with social, emotional and mental health needs.
PSHE	Personal, Social and Health Education
Pupil Profile	A document that outlines a child’s needs and how to support that child.

Resource Provision	A unit for children with complex special needs which is based on the site of a mainstream school.
QTOD	Qualified Teacher of the Deaf
QTVI	Qualified Teacher of the Visual Impaired – A QTVI has the expertise to teach both visually impaired and blind children.
Safeguarding	<p>Safeguarding means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protecting children from maltreatment, • preventing impairment of children’s health or development, • ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care, • taking action to enable all children and young people to have the best outcomes.
SALT	Speech & Language Therapy / Speech & Language Therapist – NHS specialists who assist children’s development of speech language and communication.
SATs	Standard Attainment Tests – National tests that are used across the country for Year 6 pupils. Children should complete them unless there is a valid reason not to (e.g. child is not cognitively able to access the test).
SEAL	Social and Emotional Aspects of Learning – Teaching youngsters social skills and understanding of emotions.
SEN	Special Educational Needs – a child has special educational needs if they require any form of special educational provision to be made for them to help them to make appropriate progress.
SENART	Special Educational Needs Assessment and Review Team – This team from Wakefield Council administer statements and Education, Health and Care plans. They also make sure that the local authority and its schools fulfil their duties (for example duties set out in the SEN Code of Practice).
SENCO	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator - The teacher responsible for co-ordinating SEN provision.
SLCN	Speech, language & communication need

SLD	Severe Learning Difficulties – a learning difficulty so severe that a child achieves in the lowest 0.1% of their age group.
SpLD	Specific learning difficulties (e.g. dyslexia, dyscalculia). Usually used to refer to difficulties with either English or maths, but is also sometimes used for other specific areas of difficulty (e.g. dyspraxia – a movement difficulty).
SRE	Sex and Relationships Education
Statement (see EHC Plan also).	This is a legal document that outlines a child's complex SEN or disability. It outlines what objectives the child is working towards. It also gives an overview of what will happen (this is called the provision) to achieve the objectives or outcomes. The full name is <i>statement of special educational needs</i> .
Streaming / setting	Grouping pupils in classes according to their ability
Support staff	This term is normally used to mean adults who are not teachers, who still facilitate learning. This normally means teaching assistants. Sometimes the term is used very broadly to include office staff, lunchtime supervisors, catering staff, caretakers, cleaning staff and office staff.
Team Teach	This is a training programme that teaches staff how to manage difficult behaviour. This includes a range of de-escalation techniques. It also teaches staff how to use physical intervention to move or, if deemed necessary, hold a child safely.
Transition	The support processes to help a child move from one school to another.
TYS	Targeted Youth Support