

SEND Glossary of Terms

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| AAC | Augmentative and Alternative Communication. This describes various ways to communicate which can support those with severe expressive communication disorders. Apps which allow the user to do anything from select images to show their feelings all the way to constructing full sentences are often referred to as AAC devices. |
| ADHD | Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder: a condition that affects behaviour. People with ADHD can seem restless, may have trouble concentrating for long periods and may act on impulse and unknowingly take unnecessary risks with their own safety. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/attention-deficit-hyperactivity-disorder-adhd/ https://adhduk.co.uk/ |
| ADP | Adult Disability Payment: Scottish equivalent of UK Personal Independence Payment (PIP), replaces CDP from 16th birthday. |
| ALN | Additional Learning Needs: a term used in Wales for children and young people from 0 to 25 years who have special educational needs. |
| ARFID | Avoidant, Restrictive Food Intake Disorder: a pattern of eating that avoids certain foods or food groups entirely and/or is restricted in quantity (eating small amounts). https://www.arfidawarenessuk.org/ |
| AR | Annual Review (Referencing EHCP review with Local Authority). |
| AoN | Area of Need: the name for the four broad categories used to describe a child's SEND. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • communication and interaction • cognition and learning • social, emotional and mental health • sensory and physical |
| ASC | Autism Spectrum Condition (See Autism). |
| ASD | Autism Spectrum Disorder (See Autism). |
| ASN | Additional Support Needs. |
| Asperger Syndrome | A developmental disorder considered to be an ASC. Characteristic symptoms include social awkwardness, speech pedantry and preoccupation with very narrow interests. In the UK Asperger's falls under an ASC diagnosis and is not usually referenced as a separate diagnosis. |
| Ataxia | A condition that results in poor muscle control causing clumsy movements. It may cause difficulty with walking and balance, hand coordination, speech, swallowing and eye movements. Ataxia usually results from damage to the part of the brain that controls muscle coordination (cerebellum) or its connections. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/ataxia/ https://www.ataxia.org.uk/ |
| Autism | (ASC) A neurological developmental disability caused by differences in the brain. Main symptoms are: social interaction difficulties, restricted and repetitive behaviours and developmental delays. Conditions which used to be diagnosed such as Aspergers or PDA now all fall under an ASC diagnosis in the UK. |
| Batten Disease | Life-limiting disease of the nervous system that usually begins in childhood. http://www.bdfa-uk.org.uk/ |
| CAMHS | Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, a department of the NHS that |

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| | deals with mental health conditions in young people. |
| CCG | Clinical Commissioning Group (no longer exist in England having been replaced by Integrated Care Boards (ICBs). Clinically-led statutory NHS bodies responsible for the planning and commissioning of health care services for their local area. |
| CDP | Child Disability Payment: Scottish equivalent of Disability Living Allowance (DLA), a benefit for children under 16 years old whose care needs are higher than would be expected for their peers. |
| Cerebral Palsy | Group of lifelong conditions which affect movement and coordination, caused by an interruption with the brain function that develops before, during or soon after birth. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cerebral-palsy/ |
| CIC | Community Interest Company: a special type of limited company which exists to benefit the community rather than private shareholders |
| CMV | Cytomegalovirus: a common virus that is usually harmless, but it can cause serious health problems in some babies who get the virus before birth and in people who have a weakened immune system. Once you have the virus, it stays in your body for the rest of your life. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cytomegalovirus-cmv/ |
| CSA | 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 in the year in which they become 16, provided that their 16th birthday falls before the start of the next school year. |
| COC | Change of Circumstances or Mandatory Reconsideration: a process in which you request that your Disability Living Allowance award be reassessed due to a change in your child's circumstances. |
| CFA 2014 | The Children and Families Act 2014. Part 3 of the Act sets out the law on SEND. The Act is supported by the SEND Code of Practice: 0-25 Years |
| Conductive Education | A method of learning by which individuals with neurological and mobility impairment learn to specifically and consciously performing actions which children without such impairment learn through normal life experiences, commonly used to help those with Cerebral Palsy. |
| CP | Cerebral Palsy: a group of lifelong conditions which affect movement and coordination caused by a problem with the brain that develops before, during or soon after birth. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cerebral-palsy/ |
| Cystic Fibrosis | A genetic condition caused by a faulty gene that affects the movement of salt and water in and out of cells. This, along with recurrent infections, can result in a build-up of thick, sticky mucus in the body's tubes and passageways, particularly the lungs and digestive system. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/cystic-fibrosis/ https://www.cysticfibrosis.org.uk/ |
| DCD | Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (Dyspraxia): a condition affecting physical co-ordination causing a child to perform less well than expected for their age in daily activities and appear to move clumsily. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/developmental-coordination-disorder-dyspraxia/ |
| DLA | Disability Living Allowance (DLA): benefit for children under 16 years old whose care needs are higher than would be expected for their peers. |
| DLD | Developmental Language Disorder: when a child's language skills are below the |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| | age expected levels, but not in association with another medical condition. |
| DM | Decision Maker (for Disability Living Allowance): the person who will assess your claim and decide if to make an award and at what level. Now more commonly referred to as Case Worker and Case Manager. |
| DP | Direct Payment: payment made directly to a parent or young person for specific services. May be as part of a personal budget for services specified in an EHCP. |
| DR | Disagreement Resolution: local authorities 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. |
| Down's Syndrome | A condition in which a person has an extra chromosome. This extra copy changes how the baby's body and brain develop, which can cause both mental and physical challenges for the child. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/downs-syndrome/ |
| Dravet Syndrome | A rare severe form of epilepsy with severe and frequent seizures. Seizures in Dravet syndrome usually begin during the first 2-15 months of life, often in the presence of fever or warm temperatures. https://www.dravet.org.uk/ |
| DWP | Department for Work and Pensions: government department that oversees benefits such as Disability Living Allowance and Carers Allowance. |
| Dyslexia | Dyslexia: a learning difficulty that primarily affects the skills involved in accurate and fluent word reading and spelling. Some people with dyslexia have other difficulties such as visual and auditory processing difficulties. https://www.dyslexia.uk.net/what-is-dyslexia/ |
| Dyspraxia | Developmental Co-ordination Disorder (Dyspraxia): a condition affecting physical co-ordination which causes a child to perform less well than expected for their age in daily activities and appear to move clumsily. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/developmental-coordination-disorder-dyspraxia/ |
| Dyscalculia | A specific and persistent difficulty in understanding numbers which can lead to a range of difficulties with mathematics. https://www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/dyscalculia |
| Echolalia | Repeating of noises or phrases heard, often out of context. Echolalia may cause communication difficulties. Echolalia is common in those on the Autism spectrum. |
| EBD | Emotional and Behavioural Disorder, characterised by excesses, deficits or disturbances of behaviour. |
| EHCNA | Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment: the initial document submitted in the EHCP application process. |
| EHCP | Education, Health and Care plan: a legal document which describes a child or young person's special educational needs, the support they need and the outcomes that they would like to achieve. Support can be provided directly by a local authority or it can allocate funding for you to access this support independently. |
| EOTAS | Education Otherwise Than At School: education outside the school environment, usually provided by the local authority. |
| EP or Ed Psych | Educational Psychologist. https://enquire.org.uk/asl/whats-role-educational- |

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| | psychologists/ |
| Epilepsy | A group of conditions which cause a tendency to have seizures that start in the brain. https://epilepsysociety.org.uk/about-epilepsy/what-epilepsy |
| EYFS | Early Years Foundation Stage. |
| ESFA | Education and Skills Funding Agency. A government agency that funds education for learners between the ages of 3 and 19, and those with learning difficulties and disabilities between the ages of 3 and 25. |
| FTT | The First-tier Tribunal (Special Educational Needs and Disability) is a legal body which hears appeals from parents of children with SEN and young people with SEN, about EHC needs assessments and EHC plans. |
| GDD | Global Developmental Delay is when a child takes significantly longer to reach certain development milestones than other children their age. |
| HRC | Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Higher Rate Care. |
| HRM | Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Higher Rate Mobility. |
| Hypermobility | Joint hypermobility syndrome is when a person has very flexible joints and it causes you pain. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/joint-hypermobility-syndrome/ https://www.hypermobility.org/ |
| Hypotonia | An abnormally low level of muscle tone. |
| ICB | Integrated Care Boards replaced Clinical Commissioning Groups. They plan and commission health care services regionally. |
| I.E.P | Individual Education Plan: a document that schools can use to outline and monitor the support they provide to a child or young person. It is a non-statutory document that schools can choose if and how they use. They may be called SEND Support Plans, Pupil Passports or One Page Profiles. |
| IASS or SENDIAS | SENDIAS services provide information, advice and support to children and young people with SEN and their parents. The service provides impartial advice on SEN services and, although funded by local authorities, the service is run either at arm's length from the local authority or by a voluntary organisation. |
| LA | Local Authority. |
| Leukodystrophy | Leukodystrophies are a group of usually inherited disorders characterised by degeneration of the white matter in the brain. Specific symptoms include decreased motor function, muscle rigidity and eventual degeneration of sight and hearing. https://www.alextilc.org/ |
| LGA | Local Government Association. |
| LGO | Local Government Ombudsman. |
| LRC | Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Lower Rate Care. |
| LRM | Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Lower Rate Mobility. |
| LAC | Looked After Children: refers to children under 18 who are being provided with care and accommodation by children's services. |
| Local Offer | The Local Offer, published by every local authority, details what support is available for children and young people with SEN and/or disabilities and their families. It includes information about education, health and care provision. |
| Must | Refers to a statutory requirement under legislation, regulations or precedent. |

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| MR | Mandatory Reconsideration: when the DWP is asked to look again at their decision about a DLA award. |
| MRC | MS / Multiple Sclerosis A lifelong condition that affects the brain and spinal cord causing a wide range of symptoms, including problems with vision, arm or leg movement, sensation or balance. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/multiple-sclerosis/ https://www.mssociety.org.uk/ |
| OT | Occupational Therapist treat injured, ill, or disabled patients through the therapeutic use of everyday activities. |
| Outcome | Outcome describes the difference that will be made to a child or young person as a result of special educational and other provision. Must be specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time-bound (SMART). 'Outcome' is reference to Section E of an EHCP. |
| P-Levels/Scales | P Scales or 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. |
| PA | Personal Assistant, someone employed to help with day-to-day needs. |
| Parent Carer Forum | A representative local group of parents and carers of disabled children who work with local authorities, education, health and other providers to make sure that the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of disabled children and families. https://nnpcf.org.uk/ |
| PB/Personal Budget | Money set aside to fund support as part of an Education, Health and Care plan for a child or young person with special educational needs. It can include funds from education, health and social care. |
| PDA | Pathological Demand Avoidance: a profile describing those whose main characteristic is avoidance of everyday demands and expectations to an extreme extent and generally associated with Autism. https://www.pdasociety.org.uk/ |
| Pica | Eating disorder in which a person eats things not usual considered food. https://www.nationaleatingdisorders.org/learn/by-eating-disorder/other/pica |
| PIP | Personal Independence Payment: state benefit that can be applied for to replace Disability Living Allowance (DLA) when your child turns 16. |
| PMLD | Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities. |
| Portage | Portage is home-based education support for pre-school children with special educational needs. Local authorities usually provide Portage services. |
| PR | Parental responsibility is defined under the Children Act 1989 as meaning all of the duties, rights, powers, responsibilities and authority which parents have with respect to their children. These rights do not override those of the child. |
| PRU | Pupil Referral Unit: a school which is organised to provide education for pupils who would otherwise not receive suitable education because of illness, exclusion or any other reason. Also called an alternative provision. |
| Proprioceptive Sense | The sense of where the body is in space which lets the individual know direction of movement, where the body parts are located, or how they are to an obstacle. It also provides information about how much force to use when handling objects. Proprioceptive input occurs in our muscles and joints. Often referred to with reference to sensory processing issues. |
| SALT | Speech and Language Therapist. |

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| SEBD | Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties. |
| Section 41 (School) | Schools which are included on the Secretary of State approved list of independent educational institutions, independent special schools and post-16 institutions. www.gov.uk/government/publications/independent-special-schools-and-colleges |
| SEMH | Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties. |
| SENAT | Special Educational Needs Assessment Team, which oversees the EHCP assessment process. |
| SENCo | Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator: the teacher responsible for assessing, planning and monitoring the progress of children with special educational needs and disabilities. |
| SEND | Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities. |
| SEND CoP | Special Educational Needs and Disability Code of Practice. |
| SLT | Speech and Language Therapist. |
| SMI | Severely Mentally Impaired with Severe Behavioural Problems. Used in DLA assessment |
| Statutory Guidance | Guidance that local authorities and other local bodies have a legal duty to follow unless there is good reason not to do so. |
| SPD | Sensory Processing Disorder: a condition in which multisensory input is not adequately processed to provide appropriate responses to the demands of the environment. |
| Tourette's Syndrome | A condition that causes a person to make involuntary sounds and movements called tics. https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/tourettes-syndrome/ https://www.tourettes-action.org.uk/ |
| Vestibular Sense | The sense of balance and of how fast bodies are moving. Vestibular input occurs in the inner ear and tracks head movements. Often referred to with reference to sensory processing issues. |
| VUW | Disability Living Allowance (DLA) Virtually Unable to Walk Criteria. |