

- Achievement – Describes both attainment i.e. the level achieved and the progress you have made from a starting point.
- AfL – Assessment for Learning – Assessment for Learning is the process of seeking and interpreting evidence for use by learners and their teachers to decide where the learners are in their learning, where they need to go and how best to get there.
- ATL – Association of Teachers and Lecturers
- Attainment – The actual level attained and/or results.
- Attainment Targets – A general defined level of ability that a pupil is expected to achieve in every subject at each key stage in the National Curriculum.
- Blending – To draw individual sounds together to pronounce a word, e.g. f-l-a-p, blended together, reads flap.
- CiC – Children in Care.
- CLA – Children Looked After
- Core Subjects – English, maths, computing, R.E. and science: all pupils must study these subjects up to Key Stage 4.
- CPD – Continuing Professional Development
- Creative Curriculum – There are numerous different interpretations exist for the concept ‘the creative curriculum’. In some schools it means topics or themes, in others it means asking children what they want to learn.
- CSS – Children’s Support Service, this is the new name for Pupil Referral Unit (PRU)
- DBS – Disclosure & Barring Service – DBS refers to the new agency created out of a merger between the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA), its full title is The Disclosure and Barring Service. The checks and information provided will remain the same but will be branded DBS Checks.
- DfE – Department for Education
- Differentiation – a wide variety of teaching techniques and lesson adaptations that teachers use to pupils of differing abilities in the same class.
- EAL – English as an additional language
- EBD – Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties
- “EHC Plan – Educational Health Care Plan – An education, health and care plan is a document that says what support a child or young person who has special educational needs should have.”
- EIP – Education Improvement Partner
- EMTAS – Ethnic Minority & Traveller Achievement Service
- ESOL – English for Speakers of Other Languages or English as a Second or Other Language – If English is not your main language you can take part in a course to help you improve your English. These courses are called ESOL.
- EWO – Education Welfare Officer
- EYFS – Early Years Foundation Stage. A framework of care and Education for children from birth to five years of age. This stage typically means Nursery and Reception Classes.
- FFT – Fischer Family Trust
- FSM – Free School Meals
- FTE – Full Time Equivalent
- HLTA – Higher Level Teaching Assistant
- HMI – Her Majesty’s Inspector of Schools
- IEP – Individual Education Plan for SEN pupils
- Inclusion – Removing barriers in learning so all pupils can participate at their own level.

- INSET – In Service Education and Training – Training for staff which takes place during the school year.
- ISA – Independent Safeguarding Authority
- ITT – Initial Teacher Training
- IWB – Interactive Whiteboard
- Key Stage One – age 5-7 (Years 1 and 2);
- Key Stage Two – age 7-11 (Years 3,4, 5 and 6);
- LA – Local Authority
- LAA – Local Area Agreement
- LAC – Looked After Children
- MLD – Moderate Learning Difficulties
- More able – Higher performing pupils than the majority of the class.
- NAHT – National Association of Head Teachers
- NASUWT – National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers
- NC – National Curriculum
- NGA – National Governors’ Association
- NLE – National Leader of Education
- NOR – Number On Roll
- NPQH – National Professional Qualification for Headship
- NQT – Newly Qualified Teacher
- NtG – Narrowing the Gap
- NUT – National Union of Teachers
- NVQ – National Vocational Qualifications
- Ofqual – Office of Qualifications & Examinations Regulation
- Ofsted – Office for Standards in Education
- PE – Physical Education
- Performance Table – Published by the DfE to compare schools’ results.
- Phonics – Phonics refers to a method for teaching speakers of English to read and write their language. It involves connecting the sounds of spoken English with letters or groups of letters (e.g that the sound / K/ can be represented by c,k,ck of ch spellings) and teaching them to blend the sounds of letters together to produce approximate pronunciations of unknown words. In this way, phonics enables people to use individual sounds to construct words. For example, when taught the sounds for the letters t,p,a and s, one can build up the words “tap”, “pat”, “pats”, “taps” and “sat.”
- PPA – Planning, Preparation and Assessment time to which teachers are entitled. Progression – pupils develop academically and personally from year to year and from one key stage to the next in a way which builds on what has already been achieved.”
- PRU – Pupil Referral Unit
- PSHE – Personal Social Health and Economic Education
- PTA – Parent Teacher Association
- QTS – Qualified Teacher Status
- RE – Religious Education
- SACREs – Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education
- SATs – Standing Attainment Tests/Tasks – National Curriculum Tests and Tasks which take place at the end of Key Stage 1 and at the end of Key Stage 2.
- SCITT School – Centred Initial Teacher Training

- SCR – Single Central Record – Schools must hold a single central record of all adults working with pupils. The records hold security and ID checks among other specific information.
- SEAL – Social & Emotional Aspects of Learning
- SEN – Special Educational Needs
- SENCO – Special Educational Needs Coordinator
- Setting – Putting pupils of similar ability together just for certain lessons. So, for example, it would be possible to be in the top set for French and a lower set for mathematics.
- SLT – Senior Leadership Team
- SMSC – Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (development)
- TA – Teaching Assistant
- Transition – The movement of pupils from Key Stage to Key Stage or school to school and the procedures associated with it.
- VCOP – vocabulary, connectives, openers and punctuation pupils are expected to use in their writing.
- VLE – Virtual Learning Environment