Glossary of SEND Terms

Acronym	Full terminology	Meaning
ADHD	Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder	A condition that affects behaviour, focus and concentration.
ASD/ASC	Autistic Spectrum Disorder or Condition	A developmental disability that affects communication and interaction with the world
AAC	Augmentative and Alternative Communication	All of the methods of communication other than using speed
AR	Annual Review	EHCPs have to be discussed and updated every year
-	Access Arrangements	Support put in place to help students to do exams
AP	Alternative Provision	For CYP who can't go to a mainstream school
CYPMHS	Children and Young People's Mental Health Services (formerly CAMHS)	NHS service that assesses and treats young people with emotional, behavioural or mental health difficulties (Tier 3)
C&I	Communication and Interaction	The 1st of the 4 areas of need
C&L	Cognition and learning	The 2nd of the 4 areas of need
-	Comprehension	Understanding the meaning of things
CoP	Code of Practice	Statutory guidance for all organisations that support CYP with SEND
DfE	Department for Education	Government department responsible for children's services and education
-	Differentiated curriculum	Modified or adapted curriculum that meets the different ability levels of learners
DMO	District Medical Officer	Senior health agency official who advises on matters of public health
DD (GD)	Developmental delay / Global delay	Taking longer to meet certain developmental milestones than children of a similar age

DSPL	Delivering Special Provision Locally	A local area group in Herts
-	Expressive Language	The ability to request, make choices, ask questions, answer and describe events
EHCNA	Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment	Evidence gathering process to help decide if an Education, Health and Care plan is needed
EHCCO	Education, Health and Care Co-ordinator (formerly SEN Officer)	The primary contact within the SEN team for CYP with EHCPs, their families and schools
EHCP	Education, Health and Care Plan	A legally binding document that describes the needs of the CYP and sets out the extra help and support needed
EHE	Elective Home Education	Choice made by parents to educate CYP at home or in some other way away from school
EOTAS	Education other than at school	Education of CYP outwith a formal education setting
EP	Educational Psychologist	Trained psychologist specialising in child development
EY	Early Years	Period from birth to age 4
EYFS	Early Years Foundation Stage	Nursery and Reception years in education
FFA	Families First Assessment	Early help tool to identify needs and organise the right support
-	Fine motor skills	Small muscles of the hands - using pencils, scissors, constructing with Lego, doing up buttons
-	Graduated Approach	Assess, plan, do, review cycle (APDR)
-	Gross motor skills	Whole body movements - sitting, crawling, throwing and catching, kicking a ball etc
HI	Hearing Impairment	Hearing loss that can be mild, moderate or severe
HNF/LHNF	High Needs Funding/ Local High Needs Funding	Top-up funding for CYP with needs that meet a higher threshold for support
HPCI	Herts Parent Carer Involvement	Independent parent/carer organisation

IEP	Individual Education Plan	Called different things across schools. Plan that sets out the support that will be put in place to meet needs
INCo	Inclusion Coordinator (schools)	Like a SENCo, but covers additional vulnerable groups such as pupil premium, children looked after and those with English as an additional Language (EAL)
IPSEA	Independent and Parental Special Education Advice service	National parent/carer organisation
ISL	Integrated Services for Learning	Local Authority statutory SEND service
KS1-5	Key Stage (1-5)	The different age range blocks within schools.
LD	Learning difficulties	Reduced cognitive ability, difficulty with every day activities and independence
LA	Local Authority	Official body responsible for the organisation of all public services and facilities in the area
-	Local Offer	Provides information to families of CYP with SEND about what support services are available in the local area
LSA/TA	Learning Support Assistant/Teaching Assistant	Staff in schools that provide additional support to the teacher and to some individual pupils
-	Maketon	Language programme that uses signs and symbols to help with communication
-	Mainstream school	Maintained school or an Academy that is not a special school or an independent school
-	Mediation	A way of sorting out differences between parties, often between parents and the local authority
MSI	Multi-sensory Impairment	Hearing and Vision loss. Some may be completely deaf and blind.
-	Neurodiversity	The different ways that the brain works and interprets information, highlighting that people

		naturally think about things differently
-	Non-verbal or pre-verbal	Communication before speech has developed
Ofsted	Office for standards in education	Government body responsible for inspecting schools and childcare providers
OT	Occupational Therapy	Support to improve the ability to carry out every day tasks
OCD	Obsessive Compulsive Disorder	Common mental health condition where a person has uncontrollable and reoccurring thoughts or behaviours that they feel the urge to repeat over and over
ODD	Oppositional Defiance Disorder	Uncooperative, defiant and hostile behaviour
PECS	Picture Exchange Communication System	Using visual symbols and pictures to communicate
-	Provision panel	Multi-agency group that decides on the type of setting that best meets the needs of a child
-	Personal Budget	Funding that the Local Authority can give to parents or a young person over 16 years to secure particular provision that is specified in the Education, Health and Care Plan
PD	Physical Difficulty	Long term physical impairment that has a substantial effect on the ability to carry our everyday activities
PMLD	Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties	A severe learning disability that significantly affects the ability to communicate and be independent.
PNI	Physical and Neurological Impairment	Physical difficulty and/or medical need that creates a barrier to learning or to the setting. Physical resources and reasonable adjustments will need to be made.
PSB	Primary Support Base	Small specialist provisions for children with SEND, attached to mainstream schools
PVI	Private, Voluntary and Independent	EY settings that provide childcare from 0-5 years and may be open 52 weeks of the year
RAG	Red, Amber, Green	A rating often used to show if targets are on track to be met
-	Receptive Language	Understanding what is being said

-	Reasonable Adjustments	Changes a school makes to remove or reduce a disadvantage related to someone's disability.
SaLT	Speech and Language Therapy/Therapist	Support and care for children who have difficulties with communication, eating, drinking and swallowing
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	A learning difficulty or disability that means a CYP may need special health or education support
SENCo/SENDCo	Special Educational Needs (/Disabilities) Co-ordinator	The person in school responsible for ensuring that the needs of CYP with SEND are met
-	Special Educational Needs Support	Support that is different from or additional to that which is generally given to other children of the same age using the APDR cycle
-	SEND Information Report	A statutory document on a school website that explains how a school supports CYP with SEND
SLCN	Speech, Language and Communication Needs	Difficulties with speech sounds and/or understanding of language
SLD	Severe Learning Difficulties	Diagnosis of significant impaired intelligence and impaired social functioning
SPD	Sensory Processing Disorder	A condition that affects how the brain processes sensory information
SpLD	Specific Learning Difficulties	An umbrella term for Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, Dyscalculia and Dyspraxia
-	Short Breaks	Activities for disabled CYP to give families a break
-	Special School	Schools that provide education specifically for CYP with needs that can't be met in mainstream
SEND SAS	SEND Specialist Advisory Service	Team of SEN Advisory teachers that support schools and pupils with a range of needs
SENDIASS	SEND Independent Advice and Support Service	An impartial SEND service for CYP and parents
SCERTS	Social Communication, Emotional	A research based educational approach that supports

	Regulation and Transactional Support	the core difficulties experienced by CYP with Autism
SEMH	Social, Emotional and Mental Health	The 3rd of the 4 main areas of need
S&P	Sensory and Physical	The 4th of the 4 main areas of need
SRP	Special Resource Provision	Centres attached to mainstream schools providing access to a mainstream curriculum in a smaller and less stressful environment
-	Transition	The process of changing from one thing to another - class, year group, school etc
TEACCH	Teaching, Expanding, Appreciating, Collaborating/Cooperating and Holistic	An approach sometimes used with Autistic children in school
VI	Visual Impairment	A loss of sight that cannot be corrected by glasses or lenses
VSEND	Valuing SEND	An online tool that schools can use to look at needs holistically