

A-z of

abbreviations and acronyms

used across
children's services



A-Z of abbreviations and acronyms used across children's services

In the rapidly changing world of education and social care, acronyms and abbreviations frequently come and go. This leaflet will help to keep you up to date with the main terms currently in use.

If you come across an educational or social care acronym or abbreviation that is not listed here, please email it to us with the definition to everychildmatters@essexcc.gov.uk

A	
A2	Year 2 Advanced Level exam (GCE)
ABCs	Acceptable Behaviour Contracts
ABE	Adult Basic Education
ABSSU	Adult Basic Skills Strategy Unit
ACE	Adult continuing education
ACE	Advisory Centre for Education
ACL	Adult and Community Learning
ADAS	Alcohol and Drug Advisory Service
ADD	Attention Deficit Disorder
ADHD	Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder
ADSS	Association of Directors of Social Services
AEP	Association of Educational Psychologists
AFASIC	Association for All Speech Impaired Children
AGPS	Average GCSE points score
AIS	Advisory and Inspection Service
ALBSU	Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit
AMG	Annual Maintenance Grant
AMP	Asset Management Plan
APA	Annual Performance Assessment
APEL	Accreditation of Prior and Experiential Learning
APL	Accreditation of Prior Learning
AS	Advanced Subsidiary (GCE)
ASB	Aggregated Schools Budget (ref. LMS)
ASBOs	Anti-Social Behaviour Orders
ASDAN	Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network
ASESME	Association of Special Education Senior Managers in Essex
ASHE	Association of Secondary Heads in Essex
AST	Advanced Skills Teacher
AVCE	Advanced Vocational Certificate of Education
AWPU	Age Weighted Pupil Unit

B	
BAAF	British Association for Adoption and Fostering
BECTA	British Educational Communications and Technology Agency
BEM	Black and Ethnic Minority
BESD	Behavioural, Emotional and Social Difficulty
BIP	Behaviour and Improvement Projects
BME	Black, Minority Ethnic
BSF	Building Schools for the Future
BSL	British Sign Language
BTEC	Business and Technical Education Council
BVPI	Best Value Performance Indicator
BVPP	Best Value Performance Plan
C	
C&FCS	Child & Family Consultation Service
C&G	City and Guilds
CAFCASS	Child and Family Court Advisory Support Service
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CCPR	Central Council of Physical Recreation
CDC	Curriculum Development Centre
CDRP	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships
CDT	Craft, Design and Technology
CFCS	Child and Family Consultation Service
CHI	Commission for Healthcare Improvements
CIN	Children In Need
CIPFA	Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accounting
CIS	Children's Information Service
CLA	Children Looked After
CPA	Comprehensive Performance Assessment
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
CPR	Child Protection Register
CPS	Corporate Parenting Service
CRB	Criminal Records Bureau

CRDP	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership
CRE	Commission for Racial Equality
CSCI	Commission for Social Care Inspection
CTC	City Technology College
CWD	Children with Disabilities
CYPP	Children and Young People Plan
CYPSP	Children & Young People's Strategic Partnership
D	
DAAT	Drug and Alcohol Action Team
DAG	Development Action Group
DARG	Drugs and Alcohol Reference Group
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act
DfES	Department for Education and Skills
DHT	Deputy Head Teacher
DI	Dyslexia Institute
DOH	Department of Health
DV	Domestic Violence
E	
E2E	Entry to Employment
E2L	English as a Second Language
EAL	English as an Additional Language
EAZ	Education Action Zone
EBD	Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties
EBSD	Emotional Behavioural and Social Difficulties
ECC	Essex County Council
ECM	Every Child Matters
ECVYS	Essex Council for Voluntary Youth Services
EEDA	East of England Development Agency
EFL	English as a Foreign Language
EFPTA	Essex Federation of Parent Teacher Associations
EGfL	Essex Grid for Learning
EiC	Excellence in Cities

EMAG	Ethnic Minority Achievement Grant
EMAS	Ethnic Minority Achievement Service
EOTAS	Education Other Than At School
EP	Educational Psychologist
EPHA	Essex Primary Heads Association
EPPI	Evidence for Policy and Practice Information and Coordination Centre (DfEE)
EPSI	Essex Primary School Improvement
ESA	Essex Stages of Assessment
ESA+	Essex School Action Plus
ESG	Education Support Grant
ESGA	Essex School Governor Association
ESL	English as a Second Language
ESO	Education Supervision Order
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages
EST	Essex, Southend and Thurrock
EWO	Education Welfare Officer
EWS	Education Welfare Service
EY	Early Years
EYDCP	Early Years Development and Childcare Partnerships
EYDP	Early Years Development Plan
F	
FE	Forms of Entry
FE	Further Education
FIS	Financial Information Systems
FLARE	Forum for Learning and Research Enquiry
FoI	Freedom of Information
FS	Foundation Stage
FSM	Free School Meals
FSP	Foundation Stage Profile
FSS	Formula Spending Share
FT	Full-time
FTE	Full-time Equivalent

G	
GCE	General Certificate of Education (A and AS levels)
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
GNVQ	General National Vocational Qualifications
GO-EAST	Government Office for the East of England
GTC	General Teaching Council
GTP	Graduate Teacher Programme
H	
HE	Higher Education
HEA	Health Education Authority
HEADLAMP	Headteachers' Leadership and Management Programme
HEAs	Home Education Advisors
HEAS	Home Educator's Advisory Service
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council for England
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HI	Hearing Impaired
HLTA	Higher Level Teaching Assistants
HMCI	Her Majesty's Chief Inspector
HMI	Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools
HNC	Higher National Certificate
HND	Higher National Diploma
I	
IAG	Information, Advice and Guidance (DfEE)
IB	International Baccalaureate
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDeA	Improvement and Development Agency
IEP	Individual Education Plan
liP	Investors in People
IKM	Information and Knowledge Management
ILA	Individual Learning Accounts
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
INSET	In-Service Education and Training

IPF	Institute of Public Finance
IPPR	Institute of Public Policy Research
IQ	Intelligence Quotient
ISA	Information Sharing and Assessment
ISB	Individual Schools Budget
ISC	Independent Schools Council
ISDD	Institute for the Study of Drug Dependence
ISIS	Independent Schools Information Service
ISR	Individualised Student Record
ISS	Integrated Support Service
ISSP	Independent / State School Partnerships (DfES)
IT	Information Technology
ITT	Initial Teacher Training
J	
JAR	Joint Area Review
JNC	Joint National Council
K	
KITT	Keeping in Touch with Teaching
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
KS1,2,3,4	Key Stage 1,2,3,4
L	
LA	Local Authority
LAA	Local Area Agreement
LAA	Local Authority Association
LAC	Local Authority Circular
LAC	Looked after Children
LCJB	Local Criminal Justice Board
LDG	Local Delivery Group
LEAWARDS	Local Education Authority Awards System
LGA	Local Government Association
LMS	Local Management of Schools
LMSS	Local Management of Special Schools

LPSA	Local Public Service Agreement
LPSH	Leadership Programme for Serving Heads
LSA	Learning Support Assistant
LSB	Local Schools Budget
LSC	Learning and Skills Council
LSDA	Learning and Skills Development Agency
LSI	Local Schools Information
LSPs	Local Strategic Partnerships
LSU	Learning Support Unit
M	
MDA	Mid-Day Assistant
MFL	Modern Foreign Language
MIS	Management Information System
MISE	Management Information Systems in Education
MLA	Modern Languages Association
MLD	Moderate Learning Difficulties
MPG	Main Professional Grade
N	
NAEIAC	National Association of Educational Inspectors, Advisers and Consultants
NAHT	National Association of Head Teachers
NAO	National Audit Office
NASEN	National Association for Special Educational Needs
NASS	National Asylum Support Service
NASUWT	National Association of School Masters Union of Women Teachers
NATE	National Association for Teaching English
NATFHE	National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education
NbM	Network for Black Managers
NC	National Curriculum
NCATE	National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education
NCB	National Children's Bureau
NCET	National Council for Educational Technology
NCPTA	National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations

NCSL	National College for School Leadership
NCVO	National Council for Voluntary Organisations
NCVQ	National Council for Vocational Qualifications
NDS	New Deal for Schools (budget)
NEC	National Extension College
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NFER	National Foundation for Educational Research
NGfL	National Grid for Learning
NHS	National Health Service
NIA	Number Intended to Admit
NIACE	National Institute of Adult Continuing Education
NICE	National Institute for Clinical Excellence
NJC	National Joint Council
NLC	Neighbourhood Learning Centre
NLGN	New Local Government Network
NLNS	National Literacy and National Numeracy Strategies
NMSS	Non-maintained special school
NNEB	National Nursery Examination Board
NOR	Number on Roll (ref. pupils)
NPQH	National Professional Qualifications for Headship
NPS	National Pay Spine (teachers)
NQT	Newly Qualified Teachers
NRA	National Record of Achievement
NSF	National Service Framework
NSPCC	National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
NSSM	Nutritional Standards for School Meals
NTA	Non-Teaching Assistant
NUS	National Union of Students
NUT	National Union of Teachers
NVQ	National Vocational Qualifications

O	
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
OECD	Organisation for Economics co-operation and Development
OFFA	Office for Fair Access (higher education)
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education
OGC	Office for Government Commerce
OLC	Open Learning Centre
OLD	Other Learning Difficulties
OMR	Optical Mark Reader
ONC	Ordinary National Certificate
OND	Ordinary National Diploma
ONS	Office for National Statistics
OT	Occupational Therapy
OTT	Overseas Trained Teachers
OU	Open University
P	
PA	Connexions Personal Adviser
PAA	Planning and Admission Advisors
PACE	Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984
PAF	Performance Assessment Framework
PANDAs	Performance and Assessment Reports
PAPB	Positive Approaches to Pupil Behaviour
PAR	Pupil Attendance Record
PAT	Professional Association of Teachers
PAT	Pupil Achievement Tracker
PCT	Primary Care Trust
PD	Physical Difficulty/Disability
PDF	Portable Document Format
PDG	Policy Development Group
PE	Physical Education
PELL	Post-16 Education & Lifelong Learning
PEP	Personal Education Plan

PFI	Private Finance Initiative
PGCE	Post Graduate Certificate of Education
PGR	Parent Governor Representative
PH	Physically Handicapped
PHAT	Personal High Achieving Targets
PI	Performance Indicators
PICSI	Pre-Inspection Context and School Indicators
PISA	Programme for International Student Assessment
PIT	Pool of Inactive Teachers
PIT	Primary Intervention Team
PLASC	Pupil Level Annual Schools' Census
PMLD	Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties
PMR	Performance Management Review
PNI	Physical and Neurological Impairments
PNS	Primary National Strategy
POPO	Prolific and Other Priority Offenders
POS	Programme of Study
PPA	Planning, Preparation and Assessment
PPA	Pre-School Playgroups Association
PPO	Persistent and Priority Offender
PPP	Public Private Partnership
PPS	Parent Partnerships Scheme
PRG	Project Review Group
PRG	Pupil Retention Grant
PRP	Performance Related Pay
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit
PSA	Public Service Agreement
PSA	Parent Staff Association
PSB	Potential Schools Budget (ref. LMS)
PSC	Public Sector Comparator
PSE	Personal and Social Education
PSHE	Personal Social Health Education

PSI	Policy Studies Institute
PSI	Physical & Sensory Impairment
PSLA	Pre-School Learning Alliance
PT	Part-time
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
PTR	Pupil/Teacher Ratio
Q	
QA	Quality Assurance
QCA	Qualification and Curriculum Authority
QP	Quality Protects
QTS	Qualified Teacher Status
QUANGO	Quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisation
R	
RAISE	Records of Achievement in Secondary Education
RC	Roman Catholic
RE	Religious Education
REACH	Records of Achievement
RI or Rgl	Registered Inspector
ROA	Record of Achievement
RSA	Royal Society of Arts
RSG	Revenue Support Grant
RTA	Road Traffic Accident
S	
SACRE	Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education
SATS	Standard Assessment Test
SCC	Schools Causing Concern
SCD	Severe Communication Difficulties
SCEA	Service Children's Education Authority
SCIE	Social Care Institute for Excellence
SCITT	School Centred Initial Teacher Training
SDA	School Development Advisor
SDP	School Development Plan

SEN	Special Educational Needs
SENaPS	Special Educational Needs and Psychology Service
SENCO	Special Educational Needs Coordinator
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability
SENDA	Special Educational Needs and Disability Act
SENDIST	Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal
SERPLAN	South East Regional Planning Committee
SEU	Social Exclusion Unit (Cabinet Office)
SEU	Standards and Effectiveness Unit (DfEE)
SHA	Secondary Heads Association
SHA	Strategic Health Authority
SIP	School Improvement Partner
SKILL	National Bureau for Students with Disabilities
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SLA	School Library Association
SLD	Severe Learning Difficulties
SLS	School Library Service
SLT	Senior Leadership Teams
SLT	Speech and Language Therapy
SM	Substance Misuse
SMART	Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bounded
SMG	Senior Management Grade
SMO	School Medical Officer
SMSC	Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development (NC)
SMT	Senior Management Team
SN	Standard Number
SNSS	Special Needs Support Service
SOC	Schools Organisation Committee
SOLACE	Society of Local Authority Chief Executives
SOP	School Organisation Plan
SpLD	Specific Learning Difficulties
SRB	Single Regeneration Budget

SSA	Standard Spending Assessment
SSFA	School Standards and Framework Act
SSLSU	Secondary School Learning Support Unit
SSR	Staff to Student Ratio or Student to Staff Ratio
StARs	Strategic Area Reviews
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
STPCD	School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document
STRB	School Teachers' Review Body
T	
TA	Teaching Assistant
TACADE	The Advisory Council on Alcohol and Drug Education
TASC	Teaching as a Second Career
TEFL	Teaching English as a Foreign Language
TEN	The Education Network
TES	Times Educational Supplement
TES	Traveller Education Service
TESL	Teaching English as a second language
TESOL	Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages
TOPSS	The Training Organisation for Personal Social Services
ToR	Terms of Reference
TPA	Teachers Pension Agency
TPS	Teachers Pension Scheme
TPU	Teenage Pregnancy Unit
TQM	Total Quality Management
TSS	Teachers' Superannuation Scheme
TUPE	Transfer of Undertaking Protection of Employment
U	
U3A	University of the Third Age
UCAS	University and College Admissions Services
UCET	Universities' Council for the education of Teachers
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNISON	The Union for Local Government Employees
UPN	Unique Pupil Number
URL	Uniform Resource Locator

V	
VA	Value Added
VA	Voluntary Aided
VC	Voluntary Controlled
VCE	Vocational Certificate of Education (Advanced Level)
VCS	Voluntary and Community Sector
VET	Vocational Education and Training
VfM	Value for Money
VI	Visually Impaired
W	
WAMG	Workforce Agreement Monitoring Group
WBL	Work Based Learning
WHO	World Health Organisation
Y	
YEA	Young Essex Assembly
YJB	Youth Justice Board
YOS	Youth Offenders Service
YOT	Youth Offending Team
YP	Young People
YS	Youth Service

For further information please contact:

By post:

Every Child Matters
C225,
PO Box 11, County Hall
Chelmsford
CM1 1LX

By telephone:

01245 431348

By email:

everychildmatters@essexcc.gov.uk

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The information contained in this leaflet can be made available in alternative formats: large print, Braille, audio tape or disk.

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