



JARGON BUSTER FOR FAMILIES

Here is a set of Acronyms or terms relating to Discovery or Education in general. We hope that it will clarify any confusing words or phrases that you come across.

Academy	a state-funded school independent of local authority control. Academies are self-governing non-profit charitable trusts.
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.
ASC (ASD)	Autism Spectrum Condition. Sometimes known as ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder.
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.
Cover Supervisor	A support staff member who covers classes when a teacher is out of class on PPA time or conducting other work in school.
CPD	Continuing Professional Development.
CPOMS	Child Protection Online Management System. It is used by school to collate their Safeguarding information.
CSS	Children's Support Service, this is the new name for Pupil Referral Unit (PRU).
CSW	Child Support Worker – Staff in school that work alongside Physiotherapists to deliver physical therapy.
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.

DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead Member of Staff who leads on all matters regarding Safeguarding. Currently this is Clare Hodgkinson (Deputy DSL is Jo Higgins)
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. All Discovery Students have an EHC Plan.
EMTAS	Ethnic Minority & Traveller Achievement Service.
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.
FSM	Free School Meals.
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education.
HI	Hearing Impairment.
HLTA	Higher Level Teaching Assistant (In school we use Cover Supervisors).
HMI	Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools.
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.
KS	Key Stage the stages of the national curriculum: KS1 for pupils ages 5-7; KS1 for 7-11; KS3 for 11-14; KS4 for 14-16. KS5 17-19 (sixth form).
LA	Local Authority.
LAC	Looked After Children.
MLD	Moderate Learning Difficulties.

M&H	Moving and Handling- The team in school that focuses on the safe practice of moving and handling of students and equipment in school.
NC	National Curriculum.
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education.
PE	Physical Education.
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 or 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.
PMLD	Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties.
PRU	Pupil Referral Unit.
PSHRE	Personal Social Health Relationships Education.
PTA	Parent Teacher Association
Pupil Premium	Funding allocated to schools to support pupils eligible for FSM, in care, or who have parents in the armed forces.
PPG+	Funding allocated to schools to support Children Looked After (CLA) who are: living in the care of the local authority, living with foster carers or in residential children's homes.
SATs	Standard 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. Heatherwood Students don't normally apply to this.
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.
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

SENDCO	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Coordinator.
SDP	School Development Plan – the plan that the school annually sets to promote school improvement.
SEMH	Social Emotional Mental Health
SaLT	Speech and Language Team
SLCN	Speech Language Communication Need
SLD	Severe Learning Difficulties.
SLT	Senior Leadership Team.
SMSC	Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (development).
Sports Premium	Funding for years 1 to 6 to provide additional PE and sport beyond that already provided in the curriculum.
TAC	Team around the Child – Meetings for students that need multiagency support for one or more issues.
TAF	Team around the Family – Meetings for families that need multiagency support for one or more issues.
VI	Visual Impairment