

Special needs glossary of terms

ADHD: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. A learning disorder which involves being unable to follow instructions, acting impulsively and being unable to keep still.

Anger Management: A programme designed for specific students addressing reasons and strategies for their difficulties.

Asperger's Syndrome: A learning disorder which causes the child to have difficulty building social relationships, communicating and reading body language.

Auditory memory: Things remembered from what has been heard.

Chronological age: The actual age of the student in years and months.

Cloze procedure: A piece of text with blank spaces allowing only 1 or 2 possible answers.

Consonant blend: 2 consonants that go together to make 1 sound.

Differentiated text: This is a text which has been specially adapted for SEN students to ensure that they can access the curriculum.

Dyscalculia: A learning disability known as "maths dyslexia", where numbers become inverted, making it difficult to perform basic maths calculations.

Dyslexia: A learning disability where letters become inverted, making reading and writing difficult.

Dyspraxia: A developmental disorder affecting organisation and planning of physical movement.

EP: Educational Psychologist.

Errors x3: Write out identified misspellings correctly 3 times.

Expressive language: Use of more complex vocabulary.

Eye pointing: Non verbal communication using the eyes.

Explicit language: Stating the obvious.

Homophones: 2 words that sound the same but are spelt differently.

Hypermobility: Joints which are excessively mobile.

IEP: Individual Education Plan. All children who are on the SEN register will be set targets and reviewed twice yearly. These targets are written on their IEP, and given to all staff who teach that student in order that they can reach their targets.

Implicit language: Not stating the obvious.

Kinaesthetic skills: Practical skills.

Literacy: The ability to read and write.

LSA: Learning Support Assistant, a member of staff who attends lessons where there is a Special Educational Need, in order to support the students and staff.

NFER reading test: National Foundation for Educational Research reading tests.

Number bonds: Different numbers which can be used to reach another number, ie $2 \times 10 = 20$.

Numeracy: The ability to use numbers.

Phonics: The correlation of sounds with alphabetic symbols.

Pragmatic language: Pragmatics are the “unspoken” parts of our language, for instance body language, eye contact and the other many ways in which we communicate non-verbally.

P2i: “Passport to Independence”. This is a piece of work which is set every half term for each subject, and is completed in their own time.

Reading age: Following national reading tests a student’s reading age will be calculated by averaging a score using their actual age.

Reading buddy: A confident reader will be paired with a less confident reader.

Red card: A card which is given to specific student’s (following discussions with their Head of Year), which allows them to be excused from a lesson where they feel angry or unable to cope.

Scaffolds: Setting out a task from the basic level first, then adding to knowledge by slowly building up the task.

School action: A category on the SEN register. Students in this category may need assistance in class at a fairly low level.

School action plus: A category on the SEN register. Students in this category will need assistance in class and are also being serviced by outside agencies.

Scribe: A person who writes for the student in exams.

Semantic: Relating to meaning in language.

SENCo: The Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, who is the head of the Special Educational Needs department.

SEN register: A list of students who have Special Educational Needs.

Sequencing memory: The ability to remember, order or reconstruct information such as directions, lists or events that are presented aurally.

Small group teaching: SEN students with similar needs are taught in small groups in order to increase their literacy and numeracy levels.

Speech and language difficulties: Difficulties with building vocabulary, word finding skills and in reading the unspoken tools of communication, such as body language and inference.

Spelling age: A student's spelling age is calculated by averaging a score using their chronological age, after a National Spelling Test.

SpLD: Specific Learning Difficulty eg dyslexia, dyspraxia

Statement: Official assessment of a student's SEN needs.

SuccessMaker: A software programme that helps students with reading, spelling and maths.

Time-bonded task: Tasks set for students which are to be completed within a set amount of time.

Visual memory: The ability to recall information from pictures, lists of words or other information presented visually.

Vowel digraphs: Combination of 2 vowels making 1 sound e.g. ee, ai.

Word banks: A selection of words grouped together, usually relating to a specific subject area.

1st, 2nd and 3rd 100 words: The most common words used.