

Curriculum Jargon Buster

In all fields of work jargon and acronyms are used that are known and understood by employees, but not necessarily by everyone else. Below you will find some examples of words that are used in the school environment, both on this website, in the school and in other educational establishments with an explanation of what they mean. We hope you will find this guide helpful!

Achievement	Describes both attainment i.e. the level achieved and the progress students have made from a starting point.
AFL	Assessment for Learning This is day to day assessment to inform planning and feedback to children.
ARE	Age Related Expectations
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. s-n-a-p, blended together, reads snap.
Cluster	Two (or three) letters making two (or three) sounds, e.g. the first three letters of 'straight' are a consonant cluster.
Core Subjects	These subject are: English, Maths and Science. All pupils must study these subjects up to Key Stage 4.
Curriculum intent	"The framework for setting out the aims of a programme of education, including the knowledge and skills to be gained at each stage (intent)." In simple terms, this is what we want our pupils to know and be able to do.
DfE	Department for Education
Digraph	Two letters making one sound, e.g. sh, ch, th, ph. Vowel digraphs comprise of two vowels which, together, make one sound, e.g. ai, oo, ow.
DT	Design and Technology
EAL	English as an additional language This refers to students whose first language(s) is/are not English and who may not yet be speaking English fluently or even at all.
EHC Plan	Educational Health Care Plan This is a legally binding document that prescribes clearly the nature of a child's learning difficulties and the objectives that need to be met in order to ensure that the child concerned makes strong progress.
EHCPNA	Educational Health And Care Plan Needs Assessment - undertaken by Harrow Council to decide whether a plan is warranted.
ELSA	Emotional Literacy Support Assistant Our trained staff provide additional emotional and pastoral support to pupils



EOYE	To support the learning of your child at home the teachers have put together a set of ' End of Year Expectations ' for reading, writing and maths. These expectations are based on outcomes in the National Curriculum and our own high expectations of the children at school. We hope that you find these helpful in supporting the learning of your child at home.
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.
FOGS	Friends of Grimsdyke School (name of our Parent Teacher Association)
FSM	Free School Meals
GPC	Grapheme-phoneme correspondence The relationship between sounds and the letters which represent those sounds; also known as 'letter-sound correspondences'
Grapheme	A letter or a group of letters representing one sound, e.g. sh, ch, igh, ough (as in 'though')
Greater depth	A term used in assessments to indicate that a student is achieving at a high level in that subject
HLTA	Higher Level Teaching Assistant
Implementation	This is how we teach our intended curriculum: Teaching methods; Classroom resources; Sequencing and structure; Assessment.
Inclusion	Inclusion recognises the importance of catering for diverse needs. Inclusive principles highlight the importance of meeting children's individual needs by removing barriers in learning so all pupils can participate at their own level.
Inset	In Service Education and Training Training for all staff which takes place regularly during the school year.
IWB	Interactive Whiteboard
Jigsaw	Jigsaw PSHE is the Scheme of Work we follow to teach PSHE from Reception through to Year 6. It brings together PSHE Education, emotional literacy, social skills and spiritual development in a comprehensive scheme of learning.
Key Stage One (KS1)	Pupils who are aged 5 - 7 are in KS1 (Years 1 and 2)
Key Stage Two (KS2)	Pupils who are aged 7-11 are in KS2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Knowledge Organiser (KO)	A knowledge organiser is a document that contains key facts, information and vocabulary that children will need to know to have basic knowledge and understanding of a topic. Most knowledge organisers will include: the essential facts about the topic, usually laid out in easily digestible chunks.
LA	Local Authority
LAA	Local Area Agreement
LW	Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised This is the name of the phonics scheme we follow at Grimsdyke School.



LF	Learning Focus Each lesson we teach at Grimsdyke begins with sharing the learning focus. This defines the learning outcomes and focus teaching during lessons.
LTP	Long Term Plan These long term curriculum overviews share a year group's plan for the implementation of the curriculum in the classroom.
MFL	Modern Foreign Language. At Grimsdyke School children learn French as the MFL
Mnemonic	A device for memorising and recalling something, such as a snake shaped like the letter 'S', North/East/South/West (Never Eat Shredded Wheat) or learning how to spell words.
MTP	Medium-Term Plan This is a sequence of work for a subject that shows what a teacher or educator is planning to teach over a period of weeks, such as a half-term or term. We summarise the year group's plans onto a two-page document and share so parents can see further detail on what children will be learning about in a term.
NC	National Curriculum The national curriculum is a set of subjects and standards used by primary and secondary schools so children learn the same things. It covers what subjects are taught and the standards children should reach in each subject.
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills. This is the body which inspects and regulates services which care for children and young people and those providing education and skills for learners of all ages.
PDD	Professional Development Day Training for all staff which takes place on allocated days during the school year. These are shared in advance with parents ahead of the academic year.
PE	Physical Education
Performance Table	Published by the DfE to compare schools' results
Phoneme	The smallest single identifiable sound, e.g. the letters 'sh' represent just one sound, but 'sp' represents two (/s/ and /p/)
Phonics	Phonics refers to the 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."
PP	Pupil premium Additional funding the school gets to support disadvantaged students.



PPA	Preparation, Planning and Assessment Teachers are entitled to ten per-cent of their weekly teaching time out of the classroom. During this time, teachers will plan future lessons, mark children's work, undertake assessment tasks or work alongside a colleague to target a specific area of learning.
PSCHE	Personal, Social, Citizenship and Health Education
PSHE	Personal Social Health and Economic Education
PSD	Primary Sporting Development PSD are a specialised sports coaching company that works with Grimsdyke School to deliver a comprehensive programme of physical activity to our students.
QTS	Qualified Teacher Status
RE	Religious Education
Reception	An entry class to primary schools for children who have their fifth birthday during the school year and for children who are younger or older than five with whom it is appropriate to educate them.
RSE	Relationships and Sex Education RSE as a subject taught in PSHE lessons which teaches children about the different physical, social and emotional aspects of growing up, relationships and sex education.
SACRE	Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education Every local authority must establish a permanent body, called a Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE). Its role is to advise the local authority on matters concerned with the provision of RE and collective worship; and an occasional body which must be convened to produce and recommend an agreed syllabus for RE, called an agreed syllabus conference.
SATS	Standard Assessment Tests These are produced by the Department of Education. Pupils in Year 2 (end of KS1) and Year 6 (End of KS2) sit these tests. The outcomes are seen as a key school performance indicator and published.
SC	Success Criteria The SC shows how the standards/levels by which to judge whether a learning focus (LF) has been achieved or if the learner has been successful. They also support students to evaluate progress made in a lesson and encourage them to take responsibility for their learning.
Scaffolding learning	A process through which a teacher adds supports for students in order to enhance learning and aid in the mastery of tasks. The teacher does this by systematically building on students' experiences and knowledge as they are learning new skills.
Scaled score	Results of a test that have been modified to make a score of 100 the expected standard

Segment	To split up a word into its individual phonemes in order to spell it, e.g. the word 'cat' has three phonemes: /c/, /a/, /t/
SEN	Special Education Needs
SEND	<p>Special Educational Needs and Disability</p> <p>A pupil is deemed to have a special Educational Need if they are finding it harder than other pupils to make progress. It is important to point out that a pupil may have a special educational need for a relatively short period of time. SEN are classified into three categories depending on the severity of the learning difficulty: Monitoring, School support and Statutory support.</p> <p>School Action: a mild need; School Action Plus: a more significant need; Educational Health Care Plan: a significant need where additional support is required.</p>
SENDCO	Special Educational Needs Coordinator
SLT	Senior Leadership team
SMCS	<p>Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Education</p> <p>This element of a child's education is separated into 4 aspects.</p> <p>Spiritual - Exploring beliefs and experience; respecting faiths, feelings and values; enjoy learning about oneself, others and the surrounding world; use imagination and creativity; reflect.</p> <p>Moral - Recognising right and wrong; respecting the law; understanding consequences; investigating moral and ethical issues; offering reasoned views.</p> <p>Social - Using a range of social skills; participating in the local community; appreciate diverse viewpoints; participating, volunteering and cooperating; resolving conflict; engaging with the 'British values' of democracy, the rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance.</p> <p>Cultural - Appreciating cultural influences; appreciating the role of Britain's parliamentary system; participating in culture opportunities; understanding, accepting, respecting and celebrating diversity.</p>
SPaG	Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar
Split Digraph	Two letters, split, making one sound, e.g. a-e as in make or i-e in site.
SSP	School Support Plan - sometimes called an IEP or individual education plan in other schools
TA	Teaching Assistant
Transition	The movement of pupils from Key Stage to Key Stage or school to school and the procedures associated with it.



VC, CVC, CCVC	The abbreviations for vowel-consonant, consonant-vowel-consonant, consonant-consonant-vowel-consonant, which are used to describe the order of letters in words, e.g. am, ham, slam.
Working above	An assessment description that refers to pupil's performance that is above the nationally expected standard for their age.
Working at	An assessment description that refers to pupil's performance that is within the nationally expected standard for their age.
Working towards	An assessment descriptor that refers to pupil's performance that is currently below the nationally expected standard for their age.
WRM	<p>White Rose Maths</p> <p>White Rose Maths is the maths scheme of work we use as a foundation for planning and delivering mathematics lessons. It helps children develop their conceptual understanding of mathematics by using concrete objects, pictorial representations and abstract thinking.</p>