

Dear Parents and Carers,

After leaving school yourself, it may be decades until you experience the education system again, in which time so much terminology has been introduced or replaced that it can seem like an entirely different world.

This 'Jargon Buster' page aims to help you better understand and share your child's learning adventure. Below are listed the acronyms/abbreviations and phrases that are most commonly used today. It has been divided into two sections; 'In The Classroom' – things you may hear your child(ren) say, and 'The School' – things you may read in the Headteacher's newsletters and on the school website.

Enjoy school again!

Kind Regards
 Borough Green Primary School Governors

In The Classroom -

HT	Headteacher	Responsible for running the school. Formerly Headmaster / Headmistress
CT	Class teacher	Responsible for teaching the curriculum within the classroom
SLT	Senior Leadership Team	The leadership group within the school; The Head, Assistant Head, Phase Leaders (EY/Reception, KS1/Infants and KS2 Juniors)
TA	Teaching Assistant	Helping the class teacher with instructional responsibilities. Sometimes can lead a class.
Phonics	Letters and sounds	A way of teaching reading and writing with the use of sounds and symbols.
Phoneme	Sounds	The small units of sound/speech that add to together to make up language.
Grapheme	Letters eg- a, t, ch, f, p, sh..	The individual letters or group of letters that represent a phoneme / speech sound.
Digraph	eg- sh, th, ai, ea, ow..	Two letters which together make one sound
Trigraph	eg- tch, igh, ear, air..	Three letters which together make one sound
Split Digraph	eg- _a_e, _i_e	A digraph that is split by a consonant Formerly known as “Magic e” – the 'e' reaches back to change the sound of the vowel before it.
Literacy	Reading and writing	The overall ability to read and write
Numeracy	Mathematics	The ability to understand and work with numbers
Place Value	The value of each digit in a number	Understanding units – hundreds, tens and units/singles. For example, 573 = 500 and 70 and 3, rather than 5 + 7 + 3
Manipulatives	Objects or materials in Maths	Pupils to touch and move around in order to learn mathematics

EY	Early Years	Pre-school and Reception children.
KS1	Key Stage 1	Pupils aged 5-7; Years 1 and 2. Also known as Infants.
KS2	Key Stage 2	Pupils aged 7-11; Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. Also known as Juniors.
LKS2 / UKS2	Lower Key Stage 2 / Upper Key Stage 2	Sometimes divided as Lower being Years 3/4 Lower and Upper being Years 5/6.
ATTAINMENT		A 'snap shot' of how a child is doing, measured against age-related expectations, as marks / grades.
ACHIEVEMENT/ Progress		The progress a child makes based on their prior attainment.
Baseline Assessments	Assessment/test of pupils' attainment	For Reception pupils usually undertaken by the end of Term 1, they are later measured against assessments at end of Year 2.
SATs	Standard Assessment Tests/Tasks	Tests used for national curriculum assessment at the end of Year 2 and Year 6
SPaG	Spelling Punctuation and Grammar	In Reading and Writing
GPS	Grammar Punctuation and Spelling	Currently also used in Reading and Writing
RE	Religious Education	Teaching about religions in general and their varied aspects
PSHCE	Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship and Economic education.	Discrete lessons in learning and understanding themselves and others and the world around us.
Singapore Bar	A method to teach maths	Drawing long boxes of images to represent the objects or units being added/subtracted/shared etc.
GDS	Greater Depth	When a pupil has achieved beyond 'expected' attainment. Reading/Writing/Maths at KS1 and Writing at KS2.
High Score		When a pupil has achieved beyond 'expected' attainment at KS2 in Reading, Maths and GPS

The School -

ASD	Autistic Spectrum Disorder	A developmental disorder characterized by difficulties in social interaction and communication, restricted or repetitive patterns of thought and behaviour.
Curriculum	The lessons as a whole	All the different courses/lessons that are taught in the school
DfE	Department for Education	Government department responsible for schools and children. Formerly DCSF.
Dis	Disadvantaged	All of the above except for armed forces
EAL	English as Additional Language	Pupils with whom English is not their first language.
EHCP	Education, Health and Care Plan	The document for children and young persons (from 0-25yrs) with Special Educational Needs Formerly a 'Statement'

EWO	Education Welfare Officer	A professional who visits pupils' homes to deal with attendance or welfare matters, in cooperation with the school.
Exclusion	Temporary or permanent removal of a pupil from school.	Due to serious breaches of the school's behaviour/discipline policy. Can be internal or external. Formerly 'expelled' or 'suspended'.
FLO	Family Liaison Officer	Works with families, parents, carers and pupils to tackle underachievement, particularly the most disadvantaged or vulnerable pupils.
FSM / UIFSM	Free School Meals / Universal Infant Free School Meals	For children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2. Pupils over infants age may be eligible for FSM if parents receive certain benefits.
Foundation School		A foundation school is a state-funded school in which the governing body has greater freedom in the running of the school than in community schools
GB	Governing Board / Governing Body	The team of Governors responsible for the strategic direction of the school, overseeing pupil performance and financial performance.
Inclusion	Educating students with special educational needs	Recognising that no two learners are alike, inclusive schools place great importance on creating opportunities for pupils to learn and be assessed in a variety of ways.
IM	Inclusion Manager	Non-class based member of staff combining the roles of SENCO, FLO and responsible for PP pupils.
LAC	Looked After Child	A pupil in care or fostered.
LA Maintained	Local Authority Maintained	The school is funded and overseen ('maintained') by the local authority / council.
Non-Contact days	Staff-only, children are not required to be in school on these days	Staff undergoing training or non-contact day due to twilight training (training in the evening) taken place throughout the term. Were known as "Baker Days"
National Curriculum	The courses/lessons taught across the country	A set of subjects (at primary and secondary level) so children learn the same things nation-wide, and the standards children should reach in each subject.
PAN	Pupil Admission Numbers	this is the number of pupils that the school can admit into each relevant age group
PP	Pupil Premium	Funding for schools to support pupils eligible for free school meals or have been eligible in the last six years (ever 6), LAC (in care, fostered) or in the armed forces.
PTA	Parents and Teachers Association	A group of volunteer parents and teachers who organise activities and events to raise funds to help improve the school.
SIP	School Improvement Plan	The operational document describing how the school will work towards priorities and targets.
SEF	School Self-Evaluation Form	A collaborative, reflective process of internal school review. It provides teachers with a means of systematically looking at how they teach and how pupils learn and helps schools and teachers to improve outcomes for learners.
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities	Children and young people with special educational needs (SEN) all have learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn than most children / young people of the same age

SENCO	Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator	Responsible for the day-to-day operation of the school's SEN policy.
STLS	Specialist Teaching and Learning Service	The STLS provide advice and training to support settings and schools in improving the outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities.