

‘Jargon Buster’

Educational Language

Academies – Academies are independent state-funded schools. These schools have more freedom over their finances, the curriculum they teach and teachers’ pay and conditions. These schools are funded directly by central government rather than by the local authority. Some academies are sponsored and these sponsors can come from a range of backgrounds (businesses, other successful schools, universities, charities and faith bodies). Sponsors are held accountable for improving the performance of their schools.

APP – Assessing Pupil Progress – A structured approach to assessing the progress of children in reading, writing, maths and other areas.

DBS – This is a Government organisation who complete safeguarding checks on all adults working in schools.

DfE – The Department for Education – They are responsible for education and children’s services in England.

EAL – English as an Additional Language – this term is used to describe those children who speak a different language at home or may not speak English as their first language.

EYFS – Early Years Foundation Stage – The EYFS is our Nursery and Reception classes.

FSM – Free School Meals – Pupils who are entitled to free school meals. The criteria for this has been set out by the local authority.

G&T – Gifted and Talented – This is used to describe children who excel either academically or in other areas such as dance, sport, music or art. G&T children are significantly beyond their age-expected abilities.

HLTA – Higher Level Teaching Assistant

KS1 – Key Stage 1 – Years 1 and 2

KS2 – Key Stage 2 – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

LA or LEA – Local Authority or Local Education Authority

NQT – Newly Qualified Teacher

OfSTED – Office for Standards in Education – This is an independent organisation, which reports directly to Parliament. OfSTED inspects and regulates services, which care for children and young people and those providing education and skills for learners of all ages. OfSTED sets out to raise standards in British schools through regular inspections.

PAN – Planned Admission Number – The number of children the LEA determines can be admitted into the school.

P.E. – Physical Education

PPA – Planning, Preparation & Assessment Time – This is statutory 10% (per week) non-contact time for teaching staff to enable planning, assessment and preparation.

PSHE – Personal, Social, Health & Economic Education – Lessons that focus on personal, social and health education of pupils.

SALT – Speech & Language Therapy

SATs – Standard Attainment Tests – Assessments of pupils in reading, writing, maths and science carried out in Years 2 and 6. This is statutory and pupil results are submitted to the Local Authority.

SEN – Special Educational Needs

SENCO – Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator

SEND – Special Educational Needs & Disability

SLT – Senior Leadership Team

TA – Teaching Assistant – the main role of a TA is to support learning alongside a teacher. TAs may work with small groups of children or individuals to best help learning. TAs may also lead intervention programmes designed to help children.