

Jargon Buster

Throughout your child's time at Fosse you will receive information from different people about education which uses jargon or abbreviations. Here is a list to help you to understand how this may relate to your child. Do check with your teacher if you hear or read education jargon not on the list that you don't understand.

A

A.D.D. - Attention Deficit Disorder.

A.D.H.D. - Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

Admissions Authority - The body who decides the rules on how children will get a place at the school and who is offered a place.

Appeals - The Education Acts give parents rights of appeal against certain decisions relating to admission to schools, special educational provision and permanent exclusion from school.

Assessment - Ways of judging how well pupils are progressing.

Attainment - The level pupils achieve.

Attainment target - The knowledge, skills and understanding which pupils of different abilities and ages are expected to have by the end of each National Curriculum Key Stage.

C

Curriculum - The learning opportunities a school offers. This covers all the different subject areas as well as visits and trips outside school.

D

Differentiation - The way the school's curriculum and teaching are adapted to meet the different needs of children.

E

EAL - English as an Additional Language. EAL children are those whose first language is not English.

Early Learning Goals - Early Learning Goals set out the learning and development skills most children should have achieved by the end of the Foundation year.

Education, Care and Health Plan - ECHP. A legal document that determines the school and educational provision for a small minority of pupils with complex educational or health needs.

Equal Opportunities - The chance for everyone to participate in school life and the curriculum regardless of race, religion, sex, age, ability or gender

E.Y.F.S. - Early Years Foundation Stage.

EWO or Education Welfare Officer - A person who works with schools, pupils and families to support regular school attendance.

Exclusion - Headteachers exclude pupils from school for serious breaches of discipline. Exclusions may be for a fixed period or permanent. Internal exclusions are where a child spends time in another area of the school for a day or part of a day.

F

Foundation stage - The Foundation Stage is Nursery (F1) and Reception (F2)

G

Gifted and Talented – Gifted pupils are those with high ability in one or more subject and the talented are those with a high ability in sport, music, visual arts and/or performing arts.

Governing Body - The governors, with the headteacher, have responsibility for the school. They work for the school unpaid. They are members of the community, staff, parents and local authority representatives.

Guided Reading – when teachers or LSAs work with a small group of children to help develop their reading skills.

I

I.C.T - Information and Communication Technology, refers to the whole area of computers, use of digital equipment such as camera, I pads, voice recorders etc.

Inclusion - A process by which schools, local education authorities and others develop their cultures, policies and practices to include pupils.

Inset Day/Teacher Day - Inset days are set aside to allow teachers to update their skills and knowledge to raise pupil achievement.

K

Key Stages - Your child's progress through school is measured in Key Stages.

Key Stage 1 - Pupils from 5-7 years (Year 1 and 2)

Key Stage 2 - Pupils from 7-11 years (Year 3 – 6)

L

Local Authority - Part of the council with responsibility for education (formerly known as local education authority).

Learning Difficulty - If a child has a learning difficulty, s/he finds it much harder to learn than most children of the same age do.

Learning Support Assistant - A non-teaching member of staff who helps to meet the educational needs of children either in the class or with individuals or small groups outside the class.

N

National Curriculum - The framework setting out what children aged 5 to 16 in state schools should learn. A new National Curriculum was introduced in September 2014

O

OFSTED. - (Office for Standards in Education) – The body which inspects state funded schools. OFSTED inspectors produce education reports to help improve schools.

P

Performance Tables - Results of a school or college's performance based on national tests, published every year.

Phonics - Phonics is a system of breaking down words into smaller sounds. Phonics involves breaking words down, then teaching children to blend these sounds together to form words. "Street" for example, is broken down into five sounds: "s-t-r-ee-t" Pupils are grouped according to the phonics 'phase' they have reached from phase 1 to phase 6

P.S.H.E. - Personal, Social & Health Education. PSHE covers all everyday life skills such as eating & drinking, hygiene, dressing, behaviour and relationships with family and friends.

P.P.A. time - This is Planning, Preparation and Assessment time; all teachers are entitled to PPA time. It is used for marking, preparing lessons, assessing pupils etc.

Priority area - An area from which a school takes its pupils.

S

S.A.T.s - Standard Attainment Tests. SATs are the National Curriculum tests that happen at the end of KS1 and KS2. This will take a different form in 2016 but schools have not yet been advised by the Department of Education on how children will be assessed

School Development Plan / School Improvement Plan - Different names for the same thing. It outlines how the school intends to develop and improve.

SEN - Special Educational Needs. Children who have learning difficulties or disabilities that make it harder for them to learn or access education than most children of the same age.

SENCO. - Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator. The teacher in school who is responsible for arranging the extra help for children with special educational needs.

Statement - The 'Statement' is the old name for an ECHP. See above.

Supply teacher - Staff who provide cover for absent teachers.

T

Targets - The individual goals set for a child. Targets are a way of checking the child's progress.