# Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Glossary

Sometimes words and abbreviations are used by professionals and services which are unfamiliar.

We have tried to include the most used ones here, but it is not an exhaustive list. You can find more comprehensive lists on the SENDIASS and Healthwatch websites:   
[Glossary Information - SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire](https://www.sendiasshw.co.uk/sendiassworcestershireandherefordshire/info/18/glossary)  
[Jargon Buster | Healthwatch Worcestershire](https://www.healthwatchworcestershire.co.uk/advice-and-information/jargon-buster/)

Annual Review – If your child has an EHCP then the Local Authority (Worcestershire County Council) must review it at least annually. This is to see what progress your child is making and make sure everything is up to date - it’s called an Annual Review.

CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service, this service provides assessment and treatment for children/young people where they are experiencing significant mental health difficulties. [CAMHS (hacw.nhs.uk)](https://camhs.hacw.nhs.uk/)

Carer – this is someone who provides support for a family member, partner or friend who needs help and cannot cope without their support. (See Parent carer below)

Code of Practice (see SEND Code of Practice below)

CCN – Autism and Complex Communications Team, specialist teachers, employed by Worcestershire County Council, who work with children and young people and provide support to schools [Autism and Complex Communication Needs](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/support-services/inclusion-support-services/autism-and-complex-communication-needs)

CYP – Children and young people

DLA – Disability Living Allowance (for children) is a benefit paid to families to help with extra costs, if the child meets the eligibility criteria.  
[Disability Living Allowance (DLA) for children - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/disability-living-allowance-children)

Early Help - Early Help means providing help and support to a child, young person or their family as soon as it is identified they need additional help and support.  
[Early Help Family Support | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/earlyhelpfamilysupport)

EHCNA – Education, Health and Care Needs Assessment, if your child’s school or setting can't meet your child's needs using the support they usually offer to children who need extra help, the local authority (Worcestershire County Council) may carry out a needs assessment for your child. When your child's needs have been assessed a plan for meeting them may be drawn up. This plan is called an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

EHCP– Education, Health and Care Plan, is for children and young people with SEND who have had an EHCNA and are found to need more support. It identifies their educational, health and social needs and sets out the additional support required to support them.

EP or Ed Psych - Educational Psychologist, professionals who help children or young people who experience difficulties with their access to learning. These difficulties could be behavioural, social or emotional needs.  
[Educational Psychology | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/support-services/inclusion-support-services/educational-psychology)

Graduated Response – Your child’s school, early years setting or education provider gives support to children and young people with SEND through the Graduated Response. The Graduated Response is the term used to describe a process of assessing, planning, doing and reviewing that progress is being made. Worcestershire County Council have taken the Graduated Response approach and have provided local guidance on improving outcomes for children and young people with SEND. [The SEND Graduated Response | SEND Local Offer](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/council-services/schools-education-and-learning/send-local-offer/send-graduated-response)

Local Authority (LA) – these are the administrative offices that provide services in their local area, here it is Worcestershire County Council.

Local Offer – SEND Local Offer is a website which provides information about provision families can expect to be available across education, health and social care for children and young people who have Special Educational Need (SEN) or are disabled, including those who do not have Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans.  
[SEND Local Offer | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/sendlocaloffer)

Occupational Therapist (OT) - Paediatric Occupational Therapy offer services for children and young people who may be experiencing difficulties or have a disability that impacts on daily life. This could involve self-care, play and school skills such as writing and organisation.   
[Paediatric OT (HWHCT)](https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/services/service/occupational-therapy-paediatric-89/)

Parent Carer - If you have parental responsibility and you provide support for your child or young person with a Special Educational Need and/or Disability you are a parent carer.

Parent Carer Forum - is a group of parents and carers of disabled children who work with local authorities, education, health and other providers with the aim to make sure the services they plan and deliver meet the needs of disabled children and families. Worcestershire Parent Carer Forum (WPCF) is the parent carer forum (PCF) in Worcestershire who receive DfE PCF funding.   
[WPCF (fipworcs.org.uk)](https://fipworcs.org.uk/)

PIP – Personal Independence Payments is the benefit paid to individuals (aged 16 and above) with a long-term physical or mental health condition or disability.  
[Personal Independence Payment (PIP) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/pip)

Reasonable Adjustments – school have a legal duty to try to remove the barriers in education a child or young person faces because of their disability, this is called ‘making reasonable adjustments’.

SEND Code of Practice– this is the legal guidance which tells local authorities, early years settings, schools, colleges, health and social care providers and others what they must and should do to identify, assess and provide for children and young people with SEN or disabilities.  
[SEND: guide for parents and carers - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-guide-for-parents-and-carers)

SEN Information Report - all schools must publish on their websites information about their policy and arrangements for supporting children with SEN. This must be kept up to date.

SEN Support - where a child or young person is identified as having Special Educational Needs, schools and settings should take action to remove barriers to child or young person’s learning and put effective special educational provision in place. This is called SEN support.

Sensory Impairment teams – teams of professionals who are employed by Worcestershire County Council and they work with schools and settings to promote inclusive practice and positive outcomes for children and young people with visual, hearing or multisensory impairments.  
[Hearing impairment in education | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/support-services/inclusion-support-services/hearing-impairment-education), [Multi-Sensory Impairment | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/support-services/inclusion-support-services/multi-sensory-impairment), [Vision Impairment | Worcestershire County Council](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/worcestershire-education-and-early-years-services/support-services/inclusion-support-services/vision-impairment)

Signposting – this is when professionals direct people to other individuals, services, charities or organisations who can help them.

SEN – Special Educational Needs

SEND - Special Educational Needs and/or Disability

SENCO or SENDCO – Special Educational Needs (Disability) Co-ordinator is the teacher or person who is responsible for assessing, planning and monitoring the progress of children with special educational needs in their educational setting.

SENDIASS – Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service provides free, impartial, information, advice and support on all matters relating to children and young people with SEND.  
[SENDIASS Worcestershire and Herefordshire (hwsendiass.co.uk)](https://www.hwsendiass.co.uk/)

SaLT – Speech and Language Therapy is for a child or young person with speech, language or communication problems or difficulties with swallowing, drinking or eating.  
[Children’s Speech and Language Therapy Service (hacw.nhs.uk)](https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/childrensSLT)

TAC or TAF – Team around the child or Team around the family is to bring together the family, child or young person and the professionals working with them to co-ordinate help and support.

Umbrella Pathway- is a diagnostic pathway that provides assessment and diagnosis of children and young people who present with neuro-developmental disorders due to Autism Spectrum Conditions. [Umbrella Pathway (hacw.nhs.uk)](https://www.hacw.nhs.uk/services/service/umbrella-service-125/)

Worcestershire Parent Carer Forum(WPCF) – Worcestershire Parent Carer Forum is Worcestershire’s recognised Parent Carer Forum. [WPCF (fipworcs.org.uk)](https://fipworcs.org.uk/)