

Acronyms



Becoming a parent to a child with a rare condition, means you might have to learn a whole new language too – that of abbreviations, acronyms, medical words, organisations and professionals whose job you've never come across before.

At Same but Different we know what that's like...and it can be daunting.

So we've tried to put together a list of things you may (or may not) come across with some references for further reading, in the hope it makes life just that little bit easier.

Please note that in each Local Authority and region, services may differ in names and have slightly different roles. Unfortunately we can't add them all. But please don't hesitate to get in touch if you're looking for a specific organisation, service or team (or if we've missed something).

Please also note that there may be more than one, or different meanings, for the abbreviations, so it's always best to check with the person using them.

Fast links

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

A

AAC – Augmentative and Alternative Communication – [Augmentative and alternative communication | RCSLT](#)

ABA – Applied Behaviour Analysis – [Positive Behaviour Support \(PBS\) \(autism.org.uk\)](#)

ADD – Attention deficit disorder – [Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder \(ADHD\) - Symptoms - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

ADHD – Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder – [Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder \(ADHD\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

ADI-R – Autism Diagnostic Interview – [Revised Diagnostic tools - a guide for all audiences \(autism.org.uk\)](#)

ADOS – Autism Diagnostic Observation Schedule – [Diagnostic tools - a guide for all audiences \(autism.org.uk\)](#)

AEN – Additional educational needs

AFO – Ankle-foot orthosis – [Patient information about ankle foot orthoses \(AFO's\) | CUH](#)

AHT – Assistant Head Teacher

ALN – [Additional learning needs New ALN System - Snap Cymru](#)

Wrexham: [Additional learning needs: guidance for parents and carers | Wrexham County Borough Council](#)

For Gwynedd area, please go to **Specific Additional Learning Needs.**

Flintshire: [Children & Young People with Additional Learning Needs \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#)

ALNCo – Additional Learning Needs Co-ordinator

ALNLO – Additional Learning Needs Lead Officer – [ALN Information, Advice and Guidance \(valeofglamorgan.gov.uk\)](#)

ALP – Additional Learning Provision – [New ALN System – Snap Cymru](#)

Anaesthetist – [What do anaesthetists do? | The Royal College of Anaesthetists \(rcoa.ac.uk\)](#)

ANEW Behaviour Support Team (Wrexham) – [Supporting pupils with additional learning needs | Wrexham County Borough Council](#)

Annual Health Check – Learning disabilities – [Annual health checks – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

APD – Auditory Processing Disorder – [Auditory processing disorder \(APD\) – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

ASC – Autistic Spectrum Condition – [Autistic Spectrum Condition \(ASC\) :: Healthier Together \(what0-18.nhs.uk\)](#)

ASD – Autism Spectrum Disorder – [What is autism?](#)

ASN – additional support needs

ASNEW – Advocacy Services North East Wales – [About us \(asnew.org.uk\)](#)

Audiologist – Someone who specialises in hearing and balance function and their associated disorders – [Audiology | Health Careers](#)

Audiology – Hearing loss and related issues – [About children's audiology services | Audiology for deaf children \(ndcs.org.uk\)](#)

B

Behaviour Support Team (Wrexham) – [Supporting pupils with additional learning needs | Wrexham County Borough Council](#)

Behavioural Optometrist – [British Association of Behavioural Optometrists – Home \(babo.co.uk\)](#)

Blue Badge scheme –

England: [The Blue Badge scheme: rights and responsibilities in England – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Wales: [The Blue Badge Scheme: rights and responsibilities in Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

BSL – British sign language What is BSL? – [Royal Association for Deaf people \(royaldeaf.org.uk\)](#)

C

C & YP – Children and Young People

CA – Carers Allowance – [Carer's Allowance: How it works – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

CAF – Common Assessment Framework - [What is the Common Assessment Framework \(CAF\)? - Twinkl](#)

CAMHS – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service - [Information for 11-18 year olds on understanding CAMHS - Mind](#) CAMHS North Wales locations - [Where are the CAMHS teams located? - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)

CAPA – Choice and partnership approach

Cardiologist – a doctor with special training regarding the heart

Cardiology – a medical speciality concerned with diseases or disorders of the heart

Care Inspectorate Wales – registers, inspects and takes action to improve quality and safety of services for the wellbeing of the people of Wales - [About us | Care Inspectorate Wales](#)

CCG – Clinical Commissioning Group - [What were clinical commissioning groups? | NHS Confederation \(Now replaced by Integrated Care Boards\)](#)

CHC – Continuing Health Care - [NHS England » NHS Continuing Healthcare](#)

Child Development Team – A multi-disciplinary team for children under 5 years old who may have a disability or developmental difficulties. **Pre-school development team – PDT - Flintshire** - [Flintshire - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#).

Chromosome - [DNA, genes, chromosomes | Genetic Alliance UK](#)

CIN – Child in Need (s17 Children Act 1989) - [Child in need - childlawadvice.org.uk](#)

CLDT – Community Learning Disabilities Team

Cleft teams – (multi disciplinary team) – specialist support and clinic care for people affected by cleft lip and/or palate – may comprise of a whole host of professionals including lead cleft surgeon, audiology, cleft nurses, dentists, orthodontists, speech and language therapists, psychologist etc. According to CLAPA, there are 17 cleft services around the UK and you can find your nearest one here - [Cleft Lip & Palate Association \(clapa.com\)](#)

Clinical Psychologist - [Clinical psychologist job profile | BPS](#)

Cognition - [Cognition - Wikipedia](#)

Community Dentist – check-ups, treatment and referrals to other dental services for people who may have difficulty accessing mainstream dental services e.g. for people with learning disabilities. - [Dental treatment for people with special needs - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Community Nursing Team/Community Children's Nurse (CCN) – provides nursing care to patients in the community. [ccn-visual.pdf \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)

Comorbidity – more than one disease or condition in the same person at the same time.

Consultant – a senior Doctor - [Doctors' titles explained - Toolkit for doctors new to the UK - BMA](#)

Continence – the ability to control movements of bowel and bladder. Eric offers advice re: bladder and bowel issues - [Home - ERIC](#)

Continence service (Wrexham) - [Continence Service - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#). Betsi Cadwaladr continence service - [Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Continence Service - East \(wales.nhs.uk\)](#)

CP – Child protection

CPD – Continuing Professional development – learning which professionals undertake to enhance their work.

CQC – Care Quality Commission – Independent regulator of adult social care in England – [About us - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](#)

CSW – Communication Support Worker – may work in schools and other education settings to support the communication needs of hearing impaired children and young people.

CYP – Children and Young People

D

Daffodils (aka Valley Daffodils) – North Wales – provides a range of sessions and activities to meet the needs and promote the independence of both children and adults
www.valleydaffodils.co.uk – *A registered charity for individuals with all disabilities and additional needs*

DBS – Disclosure and Barring Service (formerly CRB – criminal records bureau) – [About us - Disclosure and Barring Service - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

DECLO – Designated Educational Clinical Lead Officer – [ALN Information, Advice and Guidance \(valeofglamorgan.gov.uk\)](#)

Developmental delay – [What are developmental delays? \(understood.org\)](#)

DfE – Department for Education – [Department for Education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

DFG – Disabled Facilities Grant – [Disabled Facilities Grants: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
DFG Wales – [Applying for a Disabled Facilities Grant - Dewis Wales](#)

Dietician – A professional who specialises in nutrition, growth and feeding. – [What do dietitians do? \(bda.uk.com\)](#)

DISCO – Diagnostic Interview for Social and Communication Disorders – [Diagnostic tools - a guide for all audiences \(autism.org.uk\)](#)

DLA – Disability Living Allowance – a benefit for disabled people. – [Disability Living Allowance and Personal Independence Payment: the main differences - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

DNA – [DNA, genes, chromosomes | Genetic Alliance UK](#)

DP – Direct Payments – [Direct payments - what are they - Citizens Advice](#)

Dysmorphic – a difference in body structure/characterised by malformation. – [Dysmorphic feature - Wikipedia](#)

E

E/WAL – English/Welsh as an additional language

EAL – English as an additional language. – EAL Flintshire: [EAL Service Leaflet Eng \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#)
– EAL Denbighshire: [English as an additional language | Denbighshire County Council](#)
– EAL Gwynedd: [ADYaCh – English as an Additional Language](#)

Education Welfare Service (Flintshire) – [Children & Young People with Additional Learning Needs \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#) – Gwynedd: [ADYaCh – Education Welfare](#)

EHCP – Education, Health and Care Plan – [What is an Education, Health and Care plan \(EHC plan\)? \(ipsea.org.uk\)](#)

ENT – Ear nose and throat

EOTAS – Educated other than at school

EP – Educational Psychologist – [What is an Educational Psychologist? | Twinkl Teaching Wiki](#)
– Flintshire Education Psychology: [Children & Young People with Additional Learning Needs \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#)

ESA – Employment and Support Allowance – [Employment and Support Allowance \(ESA\): Overview – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

ETW – Education Tribunal for Wales

EWO – Education Welfare Officer

Exec head – Executive Headteacher

EYFS – Early years foundation stage – [Early years foundation stage – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

F

Families First – Denbighshire – [Families First: our support | Denbighshire County Council](#)

Families First – Flintshire – [Families First \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Family Information Service Denbighshire – Free information provided by Denbighshire covering a wide range of topics from childcare and early years education and more – [Childcare and parenting | Denbighshire County Council](#)

Family Information Service Gwynedd – [Gwybodaeth Gofal Plant Cymru – Child Care Information Wales](#)

FDF (Flintshire) – Free, confidential information, support and advice etc – [About Us – TheFDF CIL](#)

FE – Further education – [Further education courses and funding: Overview – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

FEI – Further Education Institutions – [The additional learning needs transformation programme: frequently asked questions \[HTML\] | GOV.WALES](#)

FISF – Family Information Service Flintshire – A statutory service, part of Flintshire County Council, providing free information around finding childcare, health, leisure, support needs etc – [Family Information Service \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#)

FOI – Freedom of Information – referring to the public's legal right of access to information held by government agencies and public authorities

Freka Peg - *Gastrostomy care | Great Ormond Street Hospital (gosh.nhs.uk)*

FSM - Free school meals

FSW - Family Support Worker

G

Gastroenterologist - a doctor who specialises in conditions affecting the digestive system. - *The Complete Guide To Becoming A Gastroenterology Doctor (bmj.com)*

Gastroenterology - the branch of medicine affecting the digestive system

GDD - global developmental delay - *What Is Global Development Delay? Find Out More | Mencap*

Gene - *DNA, genes, chromosomes | Genetic Alliance UK*

Genetic/Genomic Testing - *Genetic and genomic testing - NHS (www.nhs.uk)*

Genetics - *Learn about genetics Archives | Genetic Alliance UK* and here is a glossary of genetics - *A to Z of Genetics - Gene People*

Genetics teams - evaluates and diagnoses hereditary conditions and congenital malformations. Includes Professors, Genetic Counsellors etc.

Genome - *DNA, genes, chromosomes | Genetic Alliance UK*

GERD - *Gastroesophageal reflux disease | NHS inform*

GORD - *Gastroesophageal reflux disease | NHS inform*

GP - General Practitioner/Doctor - *rcgp_iyp_full_booklet_web_version.pdf (www.nhs.uk)*

H

HE - Higher Education - *Disability rights: Education - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)*

HEI - Higher Education Institute

HI - Hearing impairment - *Deafness and hearing loss - Sense*

HOY - Head of Year

HT - Head Teacher

HV - Health Visitor - *What is a health visitor? | Tommy's (tommys.org)*

I

IASS – Information, Advice and Support Service – [The Information, Advice and Support Services Network \(councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk\)](#)

ICT – Information and Communication Technology

ID – Intellectual disability

IDP – Individual Development Plan – [Individual Development Plans - Snap Cymru](#)

IEP – Individual Education Plan. – [What is an EHCP and an IEP, and how can my child get one? - Support for Parents from Action For Children](#)

IMP/IMP_r/IMPLAN – Individual Medical Plan or Profile. Gwynedd – [ADYaCh - Physical / Medical ADYaCh - Medical Conditions](#)

INSET – [In-Service Education and Training - What Are INSET Days? | Twinkl | Teaching Wiki - Twinkl](#)

Integrated Care Boards or Integrated Care Systems – [NHS commissioning » Integrated care systems \(ICSs\) \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)

IRO – Independent Reviewing Officer – [What Is an Independent Reviewing Officer? - National Association of Independent Reviewing Officers \(nairo.org.uk\)](#)

J

K

Keyworker – [NHS England » Children and young people keyworkers](#)

KS – Key Stages (in education)

KS1 – Key Stage 1 – Primary education in England and Wales for children aged 5 – 7 years old

KS2 – Key Stage 2 – Primary education in England and Wales for children aged 7 – 11 years old

KS3 – Key Stage 3 – the National Curriculum taught to children between the ages of 11 to 14 in the first 3 years of secondary school

KS4 – Key Stage 4 – the legal term for the two years of school education which incorporate GCSE's and other examinations. – [The national curriculum: Overview - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

L

LA – Local Authority – [What is local government? | Local Government Association](#)

LAC – Looked After Child – [SCIE: Introduction to...children's social care - Looked-after children](#)

LD – Learning disability

LEA – Local Education Authority

Learning Disability Nurse – may be able to support with issues such as potty training, strategies for coping with self-injurious behaviour, sleep issues etc

Learning Disability Register – [Everything you need to know about the learning disability register | Mencap](#)

Learning Disability Team Denbighshire – [Learning disabilities | Denbighshire County Council](#)

Learning Disability Team Flintshire – [Learning Disabilities \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#)

Learning Disability Team Wrexham – [Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)

LGO – Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman – can investigate complaints about Local Councils – [Home - Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman](#)

Literacy Support Service – (Wrexham) – [Supporting pupils with additional learning needs | Wrexham County Borough Council](#)

Local Authority SEND team – Every Local Authority in England has a SEND assessment team whose role it is to ensure the statutory assessment process is completed in line with the Children and Families Act 2014 to issue EHCP's.

Local Offer – [local offer \(autism.org.uk\)](#)

LSA – Learning Support Assistant

M

Mainstream school – A school which is not a special school and is either a maintained school or an academy – [Types of schools and other settings | \(IPSEA\) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice](#)

Makaton – a form of communication – [What is Makaton? - About Makaton](#)

MAP Referral System

MAPP – Mapping and Assessing Personal Progress

MAT – Multi-academy trust

MDT – Multi Disciplinary Team

Mediation – SEND mediation is a process used to solve disputes – [Mediation \(ipsea.org.uk\)](#)

Mental Capacity – [Mental Capacity Act – Social care and support guide – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Mic-Key button – [Gastrostomy care | Great Ormond Street Hospital \(gosh.nhs.uk\)](#)

MLD – moderate learning difficulty – [What are Moderate Learning Difficulties? – Teaching Wiki \(twinkl.co.uk\)](#)

Motability – [How it works | Motability Scheme](#)

MSI – multi sensory impairment – [Microsoft Word – Early Support Multi-sensory impairments FINAL.doc \(councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk\)](#)

N

Needs assessment – a process used by a Local Authority (England) to see if a child or young person requires an EHCP.

Neurodevelopment Team BETSI CADWALADR – [About the Service – Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)

Neurodevelopmental – [Chapter 1 – Demography \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](#) Also, see Neurodiverse for an easier read.

Neurodiverse – <https://www.understood.org/en/friends-feelings/empowering-your-child/building-on-strengths/neurodiversity-what-you-need-to-know>

Neurology/Neurological – a branch of medicine which focusses on the nervous system, brain, spinal cord, muscles and peripheral nerves.

Neuromuscular – the speciality that treats disorders of the muscles – [Neuromuscular | Great Ormond Street Hospital \(gosh.nhs.uk\)](#)

NEWCIS – Supporting unpaid carers across Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham – [Home – NEWCIS](#)

NEWSSS – North East Wales Sensory Support Service – [Children & Young People with Additional Learning Needs \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#)

NG Tube – Naso-gastric tube – [Gastrostomy care | Great Ormond Street Hospital \(gosh.nhs.uk\)](#)

NHS – National Health Service

NICU – Neonatal Intensive Care Unit

NQT – Newly Qualified Teacher



OFSTED – Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills. Inspectors of services providing education and skills to learners of all ages – [About us – Ofsted – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

Ombudsman (Local Government and Social Care) – England: [Make a complaint - Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman](#) – Wales: [Public Services Ombudsman for Wales](#)

Ophthalmologist – Eye care specialist – [Visiting an optician - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Ophthalmology/ophthalmologist – examines eyes, tests vision, manages ocular problems. – [Visiting an optician - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

OPP – One Page Profile - [Using One Page Profiles for your special needs child - Special Needs Jungle](#)

Optometrist – Eye care specialist – [Visiting an optician - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Orthopaedic – the branch of medicine dealing with bones or muscles

Orthoptist – Eye care specialist – [Visiting an optician - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Orthoses – See orthotics

Orthotics – specialist footwear, braces and splints etc – aiding movement, correcting deformities, relieving discomfort. – [NHS commissioning » Orthotic services \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)

Orthotist - [NHS commissioning » Orthotic services \(england.nhs.uk\)](#)

OT - Occupational therapist – supports individuals with the things they need/want to do e.g. dressing, eating. Can also make referral for help with adaptations to your home.

P

PA – Personal Assistant

Paediatric – the branch of medicine which deals with children

Paediatric Neurologist – a specialist doctor for children, who has expertise in a wide range of neurological disorders – [Paediatric neurology - sub-specialty | RCPCH](#)

Paediatric nurse – a nurse who specialises in caring for children from birth until their late teens.

Paediatric Occupational Therapist – An Occupational Therapist who specialises in working with children and young people

Paediatrician – specialist doctors who manage the health of children and young people. Can refer onto other specialist services.

Paediatrics – the branch of medicine which deals with children and young people

PALS – Patient Advice and Liaison Service – Advice, support, information and making complaints about the NHS – [What is PALS \(Patient Advice and Liaison Service\)? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

PALS – [Contact the Patient Advice and Liaison Service \(PALS\) - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)

Parent carer – [Parent carers | Action for Carers](#)

PBS – positive behaviour support – [Positive Behaviour Support \(PBS\) \(autism.org.uk\)](https://www.autism.org.uk)

PCP – Person Centered Planning or Person Centered Practice

PD – Physical disability

PECS – Picture Exchange Communication System – [PECS \(justonenorfolk.nhs.uk\)](https://www.justonenorfolk.nhs.uk)

PEG – Percutaneous endoscopic gastrostomy – [Gastrostomy care | Great Ormond Street Hospital \(gosh.nhs.uk\)](https://www.gosh.nhs.uk)

PEP – Personal Education Plan – [Education for looked after children – childlawadvice.org.uk](https://www.childlawadvice.org.uk)

Personal budget – [Personal budgets and direct payments – Social care and support guide – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

PFSO – Pupil and Family Support Officer

PHB – Personal Health Budget – [What is a personal health budget? – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

Physiotherapist/Physio – [Physiotherapy – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

PI – Performance indicators

PIP – Personal Independence Payment – [Personal Independence Payment \(PIP\): What PIP is for – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

Pipeline Case – A ‘pipeline case’ refers to those cases where a child or young person is in a process relating to the SEN statement system provided for in the Education Act 1996 – [Moving to the new system – Snap Cymru](https://www.snap.gov.uk)

PMLD – Profound multiple learning difficulty – [Learning disabilities – NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

PODD – Pragmatic Organisation Dynamic Display – See AAC.

Podiatry/Podiatrist – the treatment of feet

Portage worker – home visiting service for pre-school children who have special educational needs and their families. Focusing on things like play, communication, relationships, learning. – [Portage – Advice and support | Mencap](https://www.mencap.org.uk)

PP – Parent Partnership. Now known as SENDIASS. – [SENDIASS Home – Kids](https://www.sendiass.gov.uk)

PP – Pupil Premium – [Pupil premium: overview – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

PPSO – Parent and Pupil Support Officer

PR – parental responsibility – [Parental rights and responsibilities: What is parental responsibility? – GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

PRU – Pupil Referral Unit – [Types of schools and other settings | \(IPSEA\) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice](https://www.ipsea.gov.uk)

PSA – Pupil Support Assistant

Psychiatrist – a specialist in the field of mental health

Psychologist – an expert or specialist in psychology

Q

QTVI – Qualified Teacher of children and young people with a vision impairment – [Communication support available in the UK - Sense](#)

R

Rare Disease – [What is a rare disease? - Rare Disease UK](#)

RSS – Residential Special School

S

SaLT – See SLT

SCBU – special care baby unit

School nurse – Specialist nurses who work with school age children and young people. – [What is the role of a school nurse? | Local Government Association](#) – Wrexham and Flintshire school nurses: [Flintshire & Wrexham - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#) – Conwy and Denbighshire school nurses: [Conwy & Denbighshire - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#) – Anglesey and Gwynedd School nurses: [Anglesey & Gwynedd - Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board \(nhs.wales\)](#)

SEBD – Social, emotional and behavioural difficulties

SEMH – social, emotional and mental health

SEN – Special Educational Needs

SENCO – Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator – a person responsible for special educational needs in school – [What is a Special Educational Needs Coordinator \(SENCo\)? | Twinkl Teaching](#)

SEND – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

SEND OR SENDIST – Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal. – [What is the SEND Tribunal? | \(IPSEA\) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice](#)

SEND Team – Oversees the EHCP process (England)

SENDCO – Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator – [What is a Special Educational Needs Coordinator \(SENCo\)? | Twinkl Teaching](#)

SENDIASS – [SENDIASS - Home - Kids](#)

SENDIOG – The Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Information Organisations Group – [Find out about SENDIOG \(councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk\)](#)

Sensory Support Service – (Wrexham and Flintshire) – [Supporting pupils with additional learning needs | Wrexham County Borough Council](#)

SENTW – Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales – [Welcome to | Special Educational Needs Tribunal for Wales \(gov.wales\)](#)

SEP – Special Educational Provision

SfL – Support for learning

SGO – Safeguarding Officer

Short Break Care – (may be also known as respite care) – [Short breaks | Contact](#)

Signalong – a form of communication – [Signalong - The Communication Charity](#)

SLCN – Speech, Language and Communication Needs

SLD – Severe Learning Difficulty

SLT – Speech and Language Therapist – specialise in helping people who have speech, language and communication problems. Also eating or swallowing problems. – [Speech and language therapy | RCSLT](#)

SNAP Cymru – Free independent information, support and advice re: education for children with SEND/ALN in Wales – [Home - Snap Cymru](#)

Social Care – Services provided by the Local Authority. – For adults: [Introduction to care and support - Social care and support guide - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#) – For children: [Children and young people's care and support services - Social care and support guide - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)

Special Schools – Schools which make special educational provision for pupils with special educational needs (SEN) – [Types of schools and other settings | \(IPSEA\) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice](#) – Gwynedd: [ADYaCh - Special Schools](#) – Flintshire: [Schools List 2022-2023 \(flintshire.gov.uk\)](#) – Denbighshire: [Schools | Denbighshire County Council](#)

Specialist Teacher – Qualified teachers who will have had specialist teaching in SEND.

Specific ALN – Specific Additional Learning Needs (Gwynedd) – [ADYaCh - Specific Additional Learning Needs](#)

SPL – Speech and language

SpLD – Specific learning difficulty/difference

SPMLD – Severe, profound and multiple learning difficulties

SSW – Supervising Social Worker

Statement/SEN – Statement of special educational needs – [Still Have a Statement? - Snap Cymru](#)

STF – Specialist teaching facility

SW – Social Worker

SWAN – Syndrome without a name. – [Home | SWAN UK \(undiagnosed.org.uk\)](#)

Syndrome – “a syndrome, as related to genetics, is a group of traits or conditions that tend to occur together and characterise a recognisable disease. Some syndromes have a genetic cause”. – [Syndrome \(genome.gov\)](#)

T

TA – Teaching assistant – [What is a Teaching Assistant \(TA\) | Twinkl - Twinkl](#)

TAC – Team around the child

TAF – Team around the family. – TAF Gwynedd: [Services to support families \(llyw.cymru\)](#) – Denbighshire Families First: [our support | Denbighshire County Council](#)

TLR – Teaching and learning responsibilities

Transition – the process of moving into adulthood. There are many different links to transitions here [Transition Guides \(councilfordisabledchildren.org.uk\)](#)

Tribunal (SEND) – An independent tribunal which hears parents and young peoples appeals against Local Authority decisions about special educational needs of children and young people. It also deals with claims of disability discrimination against schools – [What is the SEND Tribunal? | \(IPSEA\) Independent Provider of Special Education Advice](#)

U

V

VI – Visual impairment

VOCAs – Voice Output Communication Aids

VSH – Virtual School Head

W

WESP's – Welsh in Education Strategic Plans

X

Y

YP – Young person

Z
