

Glossary of UK educational terms (including abbreviations/acronyms)

Further education (FE)	Post-16, non-compulsory, non-HE, education
Higher education (HE)	Usually at universities, includes undergraduate (first) degrees, and postgraduate degrees - masters (e.g. MA) and doctorates (e.g. PhD)
Pre-service teacher training	Initial teacher training, to train students to become qualified teachers; various routes available (see attached)
In-service teacher training	Post-qualification teacher training; various options, including one day courses or one year part-time
CPD (continuing professional development)	On-going training while in employment to update and add to skills and knowledge
PGCE (postgraduate certificate in education)	Initial teacher training for those with a first degree
Cert. Ed. (Certificate in Education)	Initial teacher training, usually for those without a degree, who may already be working within FE
Numeracy	A basic set of general mathematical skills that enable an individual to function in specific personal, work and societal situations. Note: The term numeracy is currently the subject of international debate in terms of its definition and function within mathematics
Literacy	'The ability to read, write and speak in English at a level necessary to function at work and in society in general.' (UK <i>Adult Literacy Core Curriculum</i> , p.3)
ESOL (English to speakers of other languages)	Mainly for asylum seekers, refugees, long-term immigrants who intend to live permanently in the UK
EFL (English as a foreign language)	Mainly for short-term students in the UK who will return to their own countries
ESL (English as a second language)	Usually used in the United States (US) for ESOL

E1-L2 (Entry 1 – Level 2)	Student skill levels (see chart). Level 2 is approximately upper-intermediate/advanced level.
Level 1 - Level 5	Teacher qualification levels (see chart). Level 5 is equivalent to postgraduate level.
Differentiation	Teaching so that each learner's individual different level, style, or learning needs, are attended to within the group – in contrast to teaching a whole class as one homogeneous group (see <i>Access for All</i>)
Learner	A general term covering students, pupils, trainees, etc. Increasingly preferred in adult education
Student	General term for one who studies – usually for post-16 young adults/adults, e.g. in FE and HE
Pupil	Usually a term for school, pre-16, children
Trainee	A participant on a training course, e.g. for teacher training
Trainer	A teacher/tutor on a training (professional, work-related) course
Tutor	Implies closer contact than a teacher; tutors are usually in charge of one particular group of students and responsible for their pastoral (welfare and personal/social issues) care, e.g. group tutor, tutor group, personal tutor
Mentor	An experienced practitioner who is available for and gives support and advice to a trainee/novice
PDC (Professional Development Centre)	A centre for CPD and training for teachers
LLUK (Lifelong Learning UK) – see <i>FENTO</i>	Formerly FENTO (see below).
FENTO (Further Educational National Training Organisation) – see <i>LLUK</i>	Since 1/2005 termed Lifelong Learning UK (LLUK). The national lead body for the development, quality assurance and promotion of national standards within further education.

QCA (Qualifications and Curriculum Authority)	Developers of national standards for basic skills
C&G (City and Guilds)	An examining board, relating to FE exams
RSA (Royal Society of Arts)	An examining board, relating to EFL/ESOL exams
UCLES (University of Cambridge Local Examinations Sydicate)	An examining board, relating to EFL/ESOL exams
CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults)	An initial teaching qualification for EFL/ESOL teachers
DELTA (Diploma in English Language Teaching to Adults)	A post-experience professional qualification for EFL/ESOL teachers
IELTS (International English Language Testing System)	An internationally recognised English language qualification; an IELTS score of 6-7 is the usual language requirement for entrance to UK universities
Basic skills	A new initiative, including adult literacy, numeracy and language (ESOL in the UK); now also ICT
Key skills	A new initiative, consisting of communication, application of number, ICT, working with others, improving own learning and performance, and problem solving; usually aimed at 16 -18 year olds on vocational courses, to give learners the transferable skills required to work and learn effectively
'Essential' skills	A proposed new initiative to merge basic and key skills
OHP (overhead projector)	Machine using OHTs (overhead transparencies) for giving presentations (an alternative to using powerpoint and a laptop)
TP (teaching practice)	Includes placements for trainee teachers
DfES (Department for Education and Skills)	Government department responsible for all education sectors, both pre- and post-16
APEL (accreditation of prior	A process whereby students can apply for

experience and learning)	exemption from certain parts of a course if they have previously studied the same content elsewhere
IT (information technology)	See http://ferl.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?page=487
ICT (information and communication technology)	See http://ferl.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?page=487
ILT (information and learning technology)	See http://ferl.becta.org.uk/display.cfm?page=487
Self-assessment	Assessment of one's own positive and negative aspects for evaluation purposes and for planning future direction and activities