

Glossary

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A

Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL)

Accredited Recommending Body (ARB)

Advanced Level (A level)

Advanced skills teacher (AST)

A school leadership role which is mainly classroom-based, allowing experienced, excellent teachers to continue developing their careers without having to take on management responsibilities.

Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS Level)

Advanced Vocational Certificate of Education (AVCE)

Approved Training Provider (ATP)

B

Bachelor of Arts (BA)

Bachelor of Science (BSc)

Basic skills

A new initiative, including adult literacy, numeracy and language (ESOL in the UK); now also ICT.

Business and Technology Education Council (BTEC)

C

Centre for Information on Language Teaching (CILT)

Certificate in Education (Cert. Ed)

Initial teacher training, usually for those without a degree, who may already be working within FE.

Certificate in English Teaching to Adults (CELTA)

CELTA is an initial qualification for people with little or no previous teaching experience considering a career in English Language teaching. CELTA can be taken as Module One of the Certificate in Further Education Teaching Stage 3 with the Certificate for ESOL Subject Specialists, which are qualifications for teachers who want to specialise in teaching ESOL in Further, Adult and Community Education in England and Wales.

Certificate of Higher Education (Cert. HE)

City & Guilds (C & G)

City & Guilds is the leading provider of vocational qualifications in the United Kingdom.

City Technology College (CTC)

Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

On-going training while in employment to update and add to skills and knowledge.

Council for Assisting Refugee Academics (CARA)

Organisation supporting refugee academics in their effort to rebuild shattered academic and/or professional careers within the UK and ensure that their specialist knowledge and abilities continue to benefit mankind.

Criminal Records Bureau (CRB)

D

Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (DBERR)

The Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform is one of three new government departments set up by the Prime Minister on 28 June 2007; the others are the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) and the Department for Children, Families and Schools.

Department for Children, Families and Schools (DCFS)

The Department for Children, Schools and Families is one of three new government departments set up by the Prime Minister on 28 June 2007; the others are the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) and the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (DBERR).

Department for Education (Northern Ireland) (DENI)

Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS)

The Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills is one of three new government departments set up by the Prime Minister on 28 June 2007; the others are the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) and the Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (DBERR).

Designated Recommending Body (DRB)
See EBITT

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.

Diploma in English Language Teaching to Adults (DELTA)

A post-experience professional qualification for EFL/ESOL teachers.

Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

E

Education Welfare Officer (EWO)

Employment based initial teacher training (formerly DRB) (EBITT)

A partnership responsible for providing the Graduate Teacher Programme and Registered Teacher Programme in England, including planning and preparing training.

Employment Based Routes (EBR)

English as a Foreign Language (EFL)

Mainly for short-term students in the UK who will return to their own countries.

English as an Additional Language (EAL)

English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Mainly for asylum seekers, refugees, long-term immigrants who intend to live permanently in the UK.

Essential skills

A proposed new initiative to merge basic and key skills.

Ethnic Minority Achievement Service (EMAS)

European Economic Area (EEA)

F

Further Education (FE)

Post-16, non-compulsory, non-HE, education.

Further Educational National Training Organisation (FENTO)

The Further Educational National Training Organisation (FENTO) is the National Training Organisation responsible for workforce development across the UK in the further education sector.

G

General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)

General Teaching Council for England (GTC)

The General Teaching Council for England, as the professional body for teaching, provides an opportunity for teachers to shape the development of professional practice and policy, and to maintain and set professional standards.

Graduate Teacher Training Registry (GTTR)

The Graduate Teacher Training Registry (GTTR) process applications for entry to Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) courses. GTTR act on behalf of Initial Teacher Training (ITT) providers, which offer teacher training in England and Wales, and all Scottish Teaching Education Institutions (TEIs).

Graduate Teaching Programme (GTP)

H

Higher Education (HE)

Usually at universities, includes undergraduate (first) degrees, and postgraduate degrees - masters (e.g. MA) and doctorates (e.g. PhD).

Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA)

Higher National Certificate (HNC)

I

Information Advice and Guidance (IAG)

Initial Teacher Training (ITT)

Post-qualification teacher training; various options, including one day courses or one year part-time.

In-Service Education and Training (INSET)

International English Language Testing System (IELTS)

An internationally recognised English language qualification; an IELTS score of 6-7 is the usual language requirement for entrance to UK universities.

K

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.

L

Learner

A general term covering students, pupils, trainees etc. Increasingly preferred in adult education.

Lifelong Learning UK (LLUK)

The national lead body for the development, quality assurance and promotion of national standards within further education.

Literacy

The ability to read, write and speak in English at a level necessary to function at work and in society in general.

Local Authority (LA)

M

Master Professional Diploma (MPD)

Mentor

An experienced practitioner who is available for and gives support and advice to a trainee/novice.

N

National Curriculum (NC)

National Recognition Information Centre for the United Kingdom (UK NARIC)

National Vocational Qualification (NVQ)

National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs) are work-related, competence-based qualifications. They reflect the skills and knowledge needed to do a job effectively, and show that a candidate is competent in the area of work the NVQ represents.

Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT)

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.

O

Office for Standards in Education (Ofsted)

Ofsted is a non-ministerial government department established under the Education (Schools) Act 1992 to take responsibility for the inspection of all schools in England. Its role also includes the inspection of local education authorities, teacher training institutions and youth work. During 2001, Ofsted became responsible for inspecting all 16-19 education and for the regulation of early years childcare, including childminders.

Open University (OU)

Overseas Trained Teacher (OTT)

Individuals who have teaching qualifications gained outside the UK.

Overseas Trained Teacher Programme (OTTP)

An individually tailored programme of training and assessment enabling OTTs to achieve qualified teacher status in England.

P

Post Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)

Initial teacher training for those with a first degree.

Post Graduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)

Post-Graduate Professional Development (PPD)

Pre-service teacher training (PTT)

Initial teacher training, to train students to become qualified teachers; various routes available.

Professional Development Centre (PDC)

A centre for CPD and training for teachers.

Professional Development Forum (PDF)

The FE Professional Development Forum was set up in 1998 following the publication of the National Guidelines on Provision leading to the Teaching Qualification (FE) and Related Professional Development, by the then Scottish Office Education and Industry Department.

Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD)

Pupil

Usually a term for school pre-16 children.

Q

Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA)
Developers of national standards for basic skills.

Qualified Teacher Lifelong Learning (QTLS)
The new professional status for teaching in the lifelong learning sector from September 2007.

Qualified Teacher Status (QTS)
Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) is an award governed by regulations made to teachers who have demonstrated that they have met the required professional standards to be considered qualified to teach in maintained schools or non-maintained special schools. Without QTS a teacher cannot register with the General Teaching Council for England and therefore cannot be employed as a qualified teacher in the above schools.

R

Refugee Assessment and Guidance Unit (RAGU)

Refugee Education Training and Advisory Service (RETAS)

Refugees Into Teaching in Scotland (RI TeS)

Registered Teacher Programme (RTP)

S

School-centred initial teacher training (SCITT)
Teacher training provided by schools in partnership with higher education institutions and local education authorities.

Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)

Special Educational Needs (SEN)

Specific Learning Difficulties (SpLD)

Student
General term for one who studies usually for post-16, young adults/adults, e.g. in FE and HE.

Students with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities (SLDD)

T

Teacher
The word teacher has been used as a generic term for teachers, tutors, trainers, lecturers and instructors in the lifelong learning sector.

Teaching Assistant (TA)

Trainee
A participant on a training course, e.g. for teacher training.

Trainer
A teacher/tutor on a training (professional, work-related) course.

Training and Development Agency for schools (formerly the Teacher Training Agency [TTA]) (TDA)

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, personal tutor.

U

Universities & Colleges Admissions Services
UCAS is the central organisation that processes applications for full-time undergraduate courses at UK universities and colleges.

University Certificate in Educational Partnership (UCEP)

University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES)
The University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES) is a leading international assessment body providing a wide range of general academic, English for Speakers of Other Languages, vocational and skills-based qualifications and tests in over 150 countries. In addition, it provides a variety of assessment services to governments worldwide.

W

West London Partnership (WLP)