

GLOSSARY OF ACRONYMS, TERMS AND MEANINGS

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
A		
ACAS	Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service	ACAS is a non-departmental public body of the Government of the United Kingdom. Its purpose is to improve organisations and working life through the promotion and facilitation of strong industrial relations practice.
Ach	Achievement Rates	The main measure by which College FE results are judged: a calculation based on Retention rates, multiplied by pass rates [used to be called “Success Rates”]
ACOP	Audit Code of Practice	ESFA requirements for audits and audit committees (2013-2017 Joint Audit Code of Practice for EFA and SFA). Now referred to as the Post-16 Audit Code of Practice.
AEB	Adult Education Budget	Budget for Education or Training for those aged 19 or over. (Formerly referred to at the Adult Skills Budget)
AGQ	Applied General Qualification	Alternative to A Levels and other vocational qualifications, aimed at 16-18, support progression to HE and higher apprenticeships
ALIS	Advanced Level Information System	Data used to assess individual learner achievement in relation to prior performance
ALPs	A Level Performance system	
ALS	Additional Learner Support	Individualised support for students assessed as needing extra support (also refers to the additional funding that can be claimed)
ALUMNI		Latin for previous students.
AoC	Association of Colleges	FE Colleges’ Membership organisation/representative body
APL	Accreditation of Prior Learning	Form of assessment rather than exam – usually assessment of portfolios etc. Now not as in vogue as in 1990s/2000s
Apprenticeships		<p>Apprentices perform paid work while receiving training towards a “framework” of standards and vocational qualifications. Apprenticeships are at different levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate – Level 2, equivalent to GCSE passes at A* - C (4 – 9 on the new system) <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced – Level 3, equivalent to A level passes <input type="checkbox"/> Higher – Level 4 or above, equivalent to a Foundation Degree <input type="checkbox"/> Degree, involves gaining a university degree while you work (Level 6, equivalent to a bachelor degree, or above, masters degree level)
B		
BAF	Board Assurance Framework	A board assurance framework (BAF) is a structured approach for ensuring that boards get the right information, which is accurate and relevant, at the right time and with a level of assurance attributed to each

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
		source of data.
BDC	Business Development Co-ordinator	Member of the BDU team
BDU	Business Development Unit	Department focused on working with employers, particularly in relation to apprenticeships and subcontracting.
BEIS	Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy	The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is a department of the government of the United Kingdom, through a merger between the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) and Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). BEIS brought together responsibility for business, industrial strategy, and science and innovation with energy and climate change policy, merging the functions of the former BIS and DECC.
BIS	(Department for) Business, Innovation and Skills	Former Government Department, now part of Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).
BKSB		Tool to assess level of attainment in literacy & numeracy
BME / BAME	Black and Minority Ethnic	Commonly used term, defined as all ethnic groups except White ethnic groups.
Board	Board of Governors	Can also be referred to as the Corporation or FE Corporation.
BP	Business Planning Round	Eg BP1, BP2
BTEC	Business and Technology Education Council	Awards largely vocational education qualifications.
C		
CAPEX	Capital Expenditure	
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service	Local services that help young people with their mental health
CBC	College Business Centre	A new expanded service for employers across innovation and skills, paid for by Strategic Development Fund (FE White Paper, 2021)
CBI	Confederation of British Industry	The representative organisation providing a voice for employers at a national and international level.
CBL	Classroom based learning	
CC	Charity Commission	The Charity Commission for England and Wales is the non-ministerial government department that regulates registered charities in England and Wales and maintains the Central Register of Charities. The Charity Commission answers directly to the UK Parliament rather than to Government ministers.
CDDA 1986	Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986	Forms part of UK company law and sets out the procedures for company directors to be disqualified as a result of certain areas of misconduct.
CESI	Construction, Engineering and Service Industries	A department based at Redcar & Cleveland College.

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
CFADS	Cash Flow available for Debt Service	A key finance measure, the cash flow available to pay debt obligations.
CFFR	College Financial Forecasts Return	Financial return to ESFA (from July 2021, replacing the IFMC)
CISRS	Construction Industry Scaffolders Record Scheme	An industry recognised scaffold training scheme
CITB	Construction Industry Training Board	
Compl	Completers	Number of learners completing the course
Cont	Continuing	Number of learners continuing on the course
COVE	Centre of Vocational Excellence	
CPD	Continuing Professional Development	In service training.
CPC	Crescent Purchasing Consortium	Is owned and run on behalf of the Further Education sector. The income generated from CPC collaboration is invested into facilitating better procurement in FE institutions.
CRM	Customer Relations Manager	Software
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility	CSR aims to ensure that companies conduct their business in a way that is ethical. This means taking account of their social, economic and environmental impact, and consideration of human rights.
CVA	Company Voluntary Arrangement	Legally binding agreement with a company's unsecured creditors to allow a proportion of debt to be paid back over time.
CVL	Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation	Formal insolvency procedure used to close an insolvent company.
D		
DBS	Disclosure and Barring Service	Provide pre-employment checks on past convictions to ensure protection of children and vulnerable adults (formerly CRB checks)
DDA	Disability Discrimination Act	Anyone with a disability is protected by the DDA
DfE	Department for Education	The Department for Education was formed on 12 May 2010 and is responsible for children's services and education, including higher and further education policy, apprenticeships and wider skills in England.
DIP	Departmental Improvement Plan	
DLHE	Destination of Leavers from Higher Education Survey	Survey data for HE students employment after graduation
DPA	Data Protection Act	The Data Protection Act 2018 is the UK's implementation of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead	The person who has responsibility for ensuring the College's safeguarding policy is adhered to. (Mark Moore, Group Head of Student Services)
DWP	Department for Work and Pensions	The UK's largest government department responsible for welfare, pensions and child maintenance policy.

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
E		
EA	External Auditors	RSM are the College Group's current external audit providers
EA	Education Administrator	An insolvency practitioner appointed for the purpose of an education administration; manages the college's affairs, business and property with a view to avoiding or minimising disruption to the studies of existing students.
E & D /EDI	Equality & Diversity / Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	
EBITDA	Earnings Before Interest, Tax, Depreciation and Amortisation	Used as an indicator of the overall profitability of a business
ECITB	Engineering Construction Industry Training Board	
Edexcel	An examination board	
EDIMs	Equality and Diversity Impact Measures	Ways of measuring effectiveness of Equality and Diversity approaches.
EFA	Education Funding Agency (now ESFA)	Executive Agency of Department for Education, providing funding for schools and all 16-19 education and training. Created in April 2012 and replaced YPLA. EFA merged with SFA in March 2017 to become ESFA.
EFL	English as a Foreign Language	
EFS	Exceptional Financial Support	No longer available under Insolvency Regime
EHCP	Education & Health Care Plan	An EHC plan is a legal document that describes a child or young person's special educational, health and social care needs.
EIA	Equality Impact Assessment	
EIF	Education Inspection Framework	The criteria by which Ofsted inspect all types of post-16 provision. New framework from September 2019.
EMSI		Company offering data solutions around a number of key issues including curriculum rationalisation, funding bids, employer engagement, apprenticeship provision, mergers, careers guidance, and course marketing
ER	Employer responsive	
ESF	European Social Fund	The ESF aims to reduce inactivity among young people and the long-term unemployed and to improve training and skills.
ESFA	Education & Skills Funding Agency	Executive Agency of the Department for Education, providing funding for schools, 16-19 education and post-19 skills (from 2017, formerly SFA)
ESOL	English for Speakers of Other Languages	
E & T	Education & Training	
ETF	Education and Training Foundation	FE body (from Aug 2013), owned by the sector but receiving BIS funding, with aim to improve professional standards and develop associated qualifications. (Briefly known as FE Guild, took over from LSIS).
ETO	Economic, Technical or Organisational	Reasons to make staff changes or changes to terms and conditions

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
EV	External Verification/Verifier	The role is to participate in verification of qualifications in the subject area (s) concerned to ensure standards are maintained.
F		
FAQ	Frequently asked questions	
FE	Further Education	
F+E / F&E	Finance and Employment Committee	
FEC	Further Education Commissioner	The Further Education Commissioner role was established in 2013 as an independent adviser to ministers. The Commissioner was given responsibility for assessing the capacity of leadership and governance in colleges and in local authority ESFA funded adult learning services that have serious weakness in quality or financial health.
FEC	Further Education Corporation	Also known as Corporation, Governing Body or Board
FECA	Further Education Capital Allocation	Fast track programme to deliver £200m of Budget 2020 commitment (see FECTF)
FECTF	Further Education Capital Transformation Fund	Fund to deliver the government's £1.5 billion commitment made at the Budget 2020 to upgrade and transform the FE college estate over the next 5 years; first bidding round March 2021
FEFC	Further Education Funding Council	Post-16 sector funding body, predecessor to LSC and SFA.
FHEA 1992	Further and Higher Education Act 1992	This act allowed 35 polytechnics to become universities, established funding agencies for HE (HEFCE) and FE (FEFC) and removed FE colleges from local government control.
FELTAG	Further Education Learning Technology Action Group	FELTAG mission statement: "FELTAG will aim to best support the agile evolution of the FE sector in anticipation of disruptive technology, for the benefit of learners, employers & the UK economy as a whole." FELTAG was set up by the former Minister of State for Skills and Enterprise, Matthew Hancock.
FISSS	Federation for Industry Sector Skills and Standards	Represents, promotes and supports the 21 Sector Skills Councils (SSCs) across the UK. SSCs are the employer-led skills organisations covering in total approximately 90% of the UK workforce. They work with over 550,000 employers to define skills needs and skills standards in their industry.
FM&G	Financial management and governance	
Foi	Freedom of Information	The Freedom of Information Act 2000 provides public access to information held by public authorities.
FRS	Financial Reporting Standard	Another term for accounting standards or financial accounting standards.
FSA	Financial Statements Auditor	Term used for External Auditors.
FS	Functional Skills	Type of qualification.
FT	Full Time	
FTE	Full Time Equivalent	A unit that indicates the workload of an employed person (or student) in a way that makes workloads or class loads

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
		comparable across various contexts.
G		
GDPR	General Data Protection Regulations	The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is a legal framework that sets guidelines for the collection and processing of personal information of individuals within the European Union (EU). The GDPR sets out the principles for data management and the rights of the individual, while also imposing fines that can be revenue-based.
GCSE	General Certification of Secondary Education	Type of qualification.
GFE	General Further Education	As in GFE College
GIP	Group Improvement Plan	
GLH	Guided Learning Hours	Way of quantifying number of 'taught' hours
GOLAP	Graded Observation of Learning, Assessment and Progress	
H		
H & S	Health & Safety	
HE	Higher Education	
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council for England	Former funding body and regulator for Higher Education.
HEI	Higher Education Institution	
HMCI	Her Majesty's Chief Inspector	Ofsted's Chief Inspector.
HMI	Her Majesty's Inspectorate (or Inspector)	Ofsted Inspector.
HNC	Higher National Certificate	Level 4 qualification - takes one year to complete, or two years part-time. An HNC is one level below an HND (generally equivalent to the first year at university).
HND	Higher National Diploma	Level 5 qualification - work-related course provided by higher and further education colleges. A full-time HND takes two years to complete.
HoD	Head of Department	
HoT	Heads of Terms	A document setting out the main terms of an agreement reached between parties in a transaction.
HSE	Health & Safety Executive	Government department aiming to reduce work-related death, injury and ill health
HTQ	Higher Technical Qualification	A level 4 or 5 qualification that has been quality marked by IfATE to indicate their alignment to employer-led occupational standards
I		
I&A	Instrument & Articles of Government	Governance Rules for FE corporations under the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 (as amended)
IA	Internal Audit	Internal Audit providers for 2019-22 are Audit One
IA 1986	Insolvency Act 1986	Provides the legal platform for all matters relating to personal and corporate insolvency in the UK.
IAG	Information, Advice and Guidance	Guidance on careers and next steps
IAS	Internal Audit Service	Internal auditors review College systems and processes,

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		both financial and non-financial
IBR	Independent Business Review	Often required when an outside party, usually a secured lender/funder, believes that a company or group of companies is showing signs of entering a distressed or insolvent state.
ICCF	Independent Commission on the College of the Future	Commission chaired by Sir Ian Diamond, UK wide plus England, Scotland and Wales reports published 2020-21, expert panels considered what is wanted and needed from colleges in ten years' time (i.e. 2030)
ICO	Information Commission/Information Commissioner's Office	The UK's independent authority set up to uphold information rights in the public interest, promoting openness by public bodies and data privacy for individuals.
ICT	Information Communication Technology	
IFAC	International Federation of Accountants	
IfATE	Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education	
IFMC	Integrated Financial Model for Colleges	Financial reporting tool submitted to the Education & Skills Funding Agency (replaced by CFFR July 2021)
IIP	Investors In People	Investors in People is a standard for people management, offering accreditation to organisations that adhere to the Investors in People Standard.
ILP	Individual Learning Plan	A 'route map' of how a learner will get from their starting point on a learning journey to the desired end point. Will include minimum predicted outcome as well as 'stretch and challenge' target.
ILR/ISR	Individualised/Individual Learner/Student Record	Student number count (the primary source of data at student and College level used for funding, planning and monitoring purposes. College make returns at designated points throughout the year)
ILT	Information and Learning Technology	
IP	Insolvency Practitioner	In the UK, only an authorised or licensed IP may be appointed in relation to formal insolvency procedures.
IR	Insolvency Regime	Introduced in 2018 and aligns insolvency practice for Colleges with company practice
IS	Information Services	
ISA	International Standards on Auditing	Professional standards for the performance of financial audit, overseen by the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.
ITP	Independent Training Provider	Offer vocational courses and training to young people and adults
ITT	Initial Teacher Training	
IV	Internal Verification/Verifier	Internal Verification is a system for checking the quality of assessment to make sure that it is valid, consistent, fair and reliable across assessors and programme areas.
J		

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JACOP	Former Joint Audit Code of Practice	Now replaced by the Post-16 Audit Code of Practice
JANET	Joint Academic Network (Ja.net)	Janet is a high-speed network for the UK research and education community provided by Jisc, a not-for-profit company set up to provide computing support for education.
JC+	Job Centre Plus	
JCNC	Joint Consultative and Negotiation Committee	Consisting of representatives from the employer and recognised unions on employment and staffing issues
JISC	Joint Information Systems Committee	A not-for-profit company set up to provide ICT support for education.
JVC	Joint Venture Company	
K		
KCSIE	Keeping Children Safe in Education	Sets out the legal duties you must follow to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people under the age of 18 in schools and colleges.
KIS	Key Information Set	Bundle of measures required to be published by Government to improve consumer choice on courses and institutions
KPI	Key Performance Indicator	Target or Measure of performance
L		
LA	Local Authority	
LAC	Looked After Children	Looked after children are also often referred to as children in care
LE	Entry level	
LEP	Local Enterprise Partnerships	There are 38 LEPs across England. They are local business led partnerships between local authorities and businesses and play a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth and the creation of local jobs.
Level 1	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: GCSE Grades 1-3 (D-G); NVQ 1
Level 2	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: GCSE Grades 4-9 (A*-C); NVQ 2
Level 3	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: GCE A Level; International Baccalaureate; NVQ 3;
Level 4	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: NVQ4; HNC; Certificate of Higher Education
Level 5	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: HND; Diploma of Higher Education; Foundation Degree
Level 6	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: Bachelor Degrees
Level 7	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: Masters Degrees
Level 8	Level of qualification or award	Equivalent to: Doctoral Degrees
LGBTQ	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer/Questioning	
LGPS	Local Government Pension Scheme	Pension scheme available to FE College support / business staff
LLDD	Learners with Learning Difficulties and Disabilities	

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LLE	Lifelong Loan Entitlement	To be introduced from 2025 as part of the government's Lifetime Skills Guarantee, available for post-18 study at higher technical and degree levels, whether modular, part-time or full-time
LMI	Labour Market Information / Intelligence	The data includes information about the past, present and future structure and working of the labour market and the factors that influence it.
LRC	Learning Resource Centre	
LS	Learner Survey	E.g. LS1, LS2
LSIP	Local Skills Improvement Plans	Build on LEPs and SAPs, piloted first in Trailblazer areas backed by new Strategic Development Fund 2021-22
LSC	Learning and Skills Council	Former main funder of post 16 sector (2001 – 2010) [took over from FEFC and themselves succeeded by SFA]
LSF	Learner Support Fund	
LSIP	Local Skills Improvement Plan	Build on LEPs and SAPs, piloted first in Trailblazer areas, backed by new Strategic Development Fund from 2021-22
LSIS	Learning and Skills Improvement Service	Now defunct Government funded improvement body (formed from merger of CEL and QIA). Replaced in 2013 by ETF
L&T	Learning and Teaching	
LTAs	Learning and Teaching Assistants	
LTI	Lost Time Injury	
M		
MAT	Multi-Academy Trust	A multi-academy trust (MAT) is a single entity established to undertake a strategic collaboration to improve and maintain high educational standards across a number of schools.
Matrix	Matrix Standard	Accreditation for quality of provision of information, advice and guidance (IAG)
MIS	Management Information System	Data records and systems, used for funding calculations, enrolments and other management information
MMA	Monthly Management Accounts	
MTF	Master Targets File	Produced annually, a key management and oversight tool for the College Group and the separate elements that make up the Group, it contains financial and quality KPIs at a Group, College and departmental level
N		
NAO	National Audit Office	NAO is an independent Parliamentary body responsible for auditing central government departments, government agencies and non-departmental public bodies. The NAO also carries out Value for Money (VFM) audits into the administration of public policy.
NAS	National Apprenticeship Service	NAS is a government agency that coordinates apprenticeships in England, enabling young people to enter the skilled trades.
NCSC	National Cyber Security Centre	Provides cyber security guidance and support aiming to

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		make the UK the safest place to live and work online
NEBOSH	National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health	
NEET	Not in education, employment or training	Category monitored by Government and targeted for action
NEU	National Education Union	
NIACE	National Institute of Adult Continuing Education	
NLFE	National Leader in/for Further Education	Serving college leaders who have a strong track record of delivering improvement – both at their own colleges and in working with others. They provide strategic mentoring and support to other colleges that need to improve
NLG	National Leader in Governance	Free consultancy support is available to help providers with a range of governance issues. This programme is funded by the Education and Training Foundation.
NLSS	National Learner Satisfaction Survey	The learner satisfaction survey is an opportunity for existing learners to rate their learning or training.
NoC / Ntl	Notice of Concern / Notice to Improve	Notice of Concern /Notice to Improve (issued to colleges by the ESFA where there are concerns about financial health or financial control, or where the college fails to meet minimum levels of performance)
Nolan Report		A report on principles underlying governance – Nolan Principles.
NPHE provision	Non Prescribed Higher Education provision	
NR	National Rate	
NSS	National Student Survey	The National Student Survey is an annual survey, launched in 2005, of all final year undergraduate degree students at institutions in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland within the United Kingdom. The survey is designed to assess undergraduate students' opinions of the quality of their degree programmes.
NUS	National Union of Students	NUS is the national voice of students helping them to campaign, get cheap student discounts and provide advice on living student life to the full.
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification	Available at Levels 1-5
O		
Ofqual	Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	Ofqual is a non-ministerial government department that regulates qualifications, exams and tests in England.
OfS	Office for Students	Regulator for institutions providing Higher Education (Replaced HEFCE in 2018)
Ofsted	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills	Colleges and Schools inspectorate
OJEU	Official Journal of the	Publication which displays tendering/procurement

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
	European Union	opportunities in the EU
OR	Official Receiver	A civil servant in The Insolvency Service and an officer of the court, responsible for administering the initial stage of liquidation.
OTL	Observation of Teaching and Learning	
P		
PAC	Public Accounts Committee	Appointed by the House of Commons, the PAC scrutinises the value for money – the economy, efficiency and effectiveness – of public spending and holds the government and its civil servants to account for the delivery of public services.
PAL	Programme Area Lead	
PFA	Provider Financial Assurance	Section within ESFA who oversee audit matters
PIAP	Post Inspection Action Plan	This is developed following an Ofsted inspection.
PLR	Personal Learning Record	A permanent online record of learners' qualifications and achievements held by the ESFA
PMO	Provider Market Oversight	An ESFA team of approximately 120 staff across the country, the aim of the PMO is to prevent and address risks to the sustainability and quality of education and skills provision, with a focus on effective financial management and governance
PMV	Progress Monitoring Visit	Ofsted visit
PR	Performance Review Period	PR3, PR6, PR9, PR12
Pre-Entry Level		Qualifications in Basic Skills, necessary for entry into mainstream Further Education.
ProAchieve		Solution for colleges, councils, adult education and training providers to drive improved learner attainment, progress, achievement and retention.
ProMonitor		Tracks student progress through the qualification and records on programme performance.
Q		
QA	Quality Assurance	
QAA	Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education	Conducts HE subject reviews; maintains UK HE Quality Code
QAR	Qualification Achievement Rates	National qualification information published by the government for FE, including apprenticeships. Formally called QSR (Qualification Success Rates).
QIP	Quality Improvement Plan	
QSR	Quality Success Rates	
R		
RAG	Red, Amber, Green	RAG system is a method of rating for issues or status reports, based on Red, Amber (yellow), and Green colours used in a traffic light rating system.
Ret	Retention	The percentage or number of students starting measured against those actually completing, ie remaining on course to course end

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
RF	Restructuring Facility	Monies provided to colleges through the ESFA Transactions Unit (TU)
RIDDOR	Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences	The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013, often known by the acronym RIDDOR, is a 2013 statutory instrument of the Parliament of the United Kingdom. It regulates the statutory obligation to report deaths, injuries, diseases and "dangerous occurrences", including near misses, which take place at work or in connection with work.
RMG	Risk Management Group	Members of the SMT, regularly review the Group's Strategic Risk Register
RPL	Record of / recording of prior learning	
S		
S	As in s18, s20, etc	Section of a Parliamentary Act
SAP	Skills Advisory Panel	A local partnership that works to identify and address local skills priorities; there are 36 across England. They aim to strengthen the link between employers and skills providers including colleges, independent training providers and universities.
SAQ	Self-Assessment Question	
SAR	Self-Assessment Report	Primarily, the main annual (autumn) self assessment exercise for Colleges. Provides basis for inspections
SAR	Special Administration Regime	Insolvency procedures for colleges are modified to facilitate a SAR which enables the Secretary of State to appoint an Education Administrator to protect learner provision.
SAR	Subject Access Request	A written request made by an employee to their employer for information
SCIF	Strategic College Improvement Fund	Fund available for colleges to support with improvement work. The scheme is now closed.
SECR	Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting	Requirement from end March 2021
SED	Self Evaluation Document	For example, HE SED
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability	A child or young person of compulsory school age is said to have SEND if they: Have a significantly greater difficulty in learning than the majority of others of the same age.
SES	Single Equality Scheme	
SFA	Former Skills Funding Agency (now ESFA)	Former Government main funder of post- 19 skills sector since 2010 (replaced LSC). Merged with EFA in 2017 to become ESFA.
SFC	Sixth Form College	
SFCA	Sixth Form Colleges' Association	The Sixth Form Colleges' Association has been representing the interests of the sector since Sixth Form colleges became independent corporations in 1993.
SIC	Standards Improvement Committee	
SLA	Service Level Agreement	

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SLDD	Students with Learning Disabilities and Difficulties	
SLN	Student Learner Number	Learner record.
SLT	Senior Leadership Team	
SMART		Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic, Time-related
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise	A firm with less than 250 employees.
SMT	Senior Management Team	
SORP	Statement of Recommended (Accounting) Practice	A framework for charity accounting that all charities that prepare accrual accounts must follow.
SoS	Secretary of State	
SoW	Schemes of Work	
SPA	Structure and Prospect Appraisal	Led by FE Commissioner's office, SPAs allow FE Colleges to assess options for structural change and pursue mergers
SPH	Senior Postholder	In many colleges, a small number of senior members of staff are appointed by, and are directly accountable to, the governing body. These staff are known as 'Senior Postholders'. Because it appoints and directly manages Senior Postholders, the governing body has obligations to these individuals as their employer that it cannot delegate to the Principal.
SSA	Sector Subject Area	Classification of curriculum area. Categorisation for Inspection purposes (which may cross college organisational lines)
SSC	Sector Skills Councils	Oversee certain skills areas (replaced National Training Organisations and, previously, Industry Training Boards) (replaced by FISSS)
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	
Study Programmes		All students in full or part-time education aged 16 to 19 are expected to follow a study programme tailored to their individual needs, education and employment goals, including students with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.
Succ	Success	Number of learners achieving qualification (as a percentage of all starters)
T		
T Levels		T Levels are new courses coming in September 2020, which will follow GCSEs and will be equivalent to 3 A Levels. These 2-year courses have been developed in collaboration with employers and businesses so that the content meets the needs of industry and prepares students for work.
TEF	Teaching Excellence Framework	HE provider assessment (Gold/Silver/Bronze) administered by the Office for Students (formally by HEFCE)
TFEA 2017	Technical and Further Education Act 2017	
T&L	Teaching and Learning	
TLA	Teaching, Learning and	

ACRONYM/ TERMS	STANDS FOR.....	MEANS.....
	Assessment	
TLO	Teaching and Learning Observation	Observation and assessment of the quality of teaching (academic staff)
ToR	Terms of Reference	
TPS	Teachers Pension Scheme	Pension scheme open to FE lecturing/academic staff
TSO	The Stationery Office	Official publisher and distributor for legislation, command and house papers, select committee reports, Hansard, and the London, Edinburgh and Belfast Gazettes.
TTF	Taking Teaching Further	Supports FE providers to recruit and train individuals with industry experience as FE teachers
TU	Transactions Unit	Part of ESFA, provided restructuring facilities (RF) monies for colleges
TUCP	Teesside University College Partnership	Provides opportunities, across the Tees Valley, for entry to Teesside University higher education courses, delivered by partner colleges
TUPE	Transfer of Undertakings (protection of Employment)	The TUPE Regulations preserve employees' terms and conditions when a business or undertaking, or part of one, is transferred to a new employer.
U		
UCAS	Universities and Colleges Admissions Services	Its main role is to operate the application process for British universities.
UCU	Universities and Colleges Union	UCU is the largest trade union and professional association for academics, lecturers, trainers, researchers and academic-related staff working in further and higher education throughout the UK.
UD	Upper Decile	Top 10%
ULN	Unique Learner Number	Unique 10-digit number. Most learners aged 14+ have one and it's designed to work with the PLR as proof of learning and achievements
UNISON		The public service union – nationally recognised union for support staff.
URN	Unique Reference Number	A 6-digit number issued by Ofsted to identify the educational establishments they are responsible for monitoring (Etc.'s URN is 130576)
UTC	University Technical College	Established under school academy regulations to provide vocational and technically focussed education for 14-19 year olds and often sponsored by universities and colleges
UQ	Upper Quartile	Top 25%
V		
VA	Value Added	Measure of extent of progress made by the student whilst at College, used to assess quality and outcomes.
VADT	Value Added, Distance Travelled	
Validation		Confirmation of the appropriateness of a programme and the standards met.
VfM	Value for Money	The National Audit Office (NAO) uses three criteria to assess the value for money of government spending i.e. the optimal use of resources to achieve the intended

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		outcomes: Economy: minimising the cost of resources used or required (inputs) – spending less ; Efficiency: the relationship between the output from goods or services and the resources to produce them – spending well ; and Effectiveness: the relationship between the intended and actual results of public spending (outcomes) – spending wisely .
VLE	Virtual Learning Environment	The software and platform for e-learning
VP	Vice Principal	
W		
WBL / WPL	Work Based Learning / Workplace Learning	Employment combined with training and achievement of recognised qualifications in the workplace
Y		
YE	Year Ending	
YTD	Year to Date	