

Glossary of Terms

A list of acronyms and special terms used in post-16 education and training compiled by **Dick Evans**

All areas of human activity create and develop their own specialist language. Education and training are no exception to this rule and acronyms, abbreviations and special terms abound. The list below attempts to provide a reference of terms used in post-16 education and training. Although many of the terms are historical they still appear in recent documents. This glossary hopefully will cross reference with the history of technical education and the associated chronology. The list cannot hope to be perfectly accurate or complete but should provide a guide to the terminology, new organisations and initiatives that come and go with increasing rapidity but hopefully the list will be of use to the readership of T Mag.

| A | | | |
|--------------|---|--|--|
| A | Advanced level | | ACFHE |
| A1 | First year of Advanced Study | | Associations of Colleges for Further and Higher Education |
| A2 | Second Year of Advanced Study | | ACHMI |
| AACE | Association for Adult and Continuing Education | | Audit Commission and Her Majesty's Inspectorate |
| AAES | Association of Agricultural Education Staff | | ACL |
| AAI | Association of Art Institutions | | Adult and Community Learning |
| AB | Awarding Body | | ACLF |
| ABE | Adult Basic Education | | Adult and Community Learning Fund |
| ABC | Awarding Body Consortium | | ACM |
| ABCC | Association of British Correspondence Colleges | | Association for College Management (Merged with CEF to form AoC) |
| ABCUs | Association of British Credit Unions | | ACOST |
| ABLSU | Adult Basic Literacy Study Unit | | Advisory Council on Science and Technology |
| ABRC | Advisory Board for the Research Councils | | ACRA |
| ABSSU | Adult Basic Skills Strategy Unit | | Association of College Registrars and Administrators (Now merged with AoC) |
| AC | Audit Commission | | ACS |
| ACACE | Advisory Council for Adult and Continuing Education | | Average Class Size |
| ACARD | Advisory Council on Applied Research and Development | | ACSET |
| ACC | Association of County Councils | | Advisory Committee on the Supply and Training of Teachers |
| ACCAC | Qualification Curriculum and Assessment Authority for Wales (merged with DELLS in April 2006) | | ADAR |
| ACE | Advisory Centre for Education | | Art and Design Admissions Registry |
| ACE | Army Certificate of Education | | ADES |
| | | | Association of Directors of Education in Scotland |
| | | | AE |
| | | | Adult Education |
| | | | AEA |
| | | | Advanced Extension Awards |
| | | | AEAS |
| | | | Association of Educational Advisers in Scotland |
| | | | AEB |
| | | | Associated Examining Board ('A' and 'O' levels) |
| | | | AEO |
| | | | Association of Education Officers |
| | | | AfC |
| | | | Association for Colleges (Merged with CEF to form the AoC) |
| | | | AFE |
| | | | Advanced Further Education |
| | | | AFEIS |
| | | | Advanced Further Education Information Service |
| | | | AGCS |
| | | | Advisory Group on Content and Standards |

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|--------------|--|
| BIM | British Institute of Management |
| BITC | Business in the Community |
| BL | Business Link |
| BoE | Board of Education |
| BTEC | Business Technician Education Council (Created by the merger of TEC and BEC) |
| BOPUs | Basic On Programme Units |
| BRTG | Better Regulation Task Group |
| BSA | Basic Skills Agency |
| BSCF | Basic Skills Community Fund |
| BSQI | Basic Skills Quality Initiative |
| BSU | Business Start Up |
| BTF | Bureaucracy Task Force |

C

| | |
|----------------|---|
| C/Circ | Circular |
| CA | City Academies |
| CA | Credit Accumulation |
| CA | Community Action |
| CAA | Computer Assisted Assessment |
| CABE | Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment |
| CAC | Central Advisory Council |
| CACC | Council for the Accreditation of Correspondence Colleges |
| CACE | Central Advisory Council for England |
| CACGS | Computer-Aided Careers Guidance System |
| CACHE | Council for Awards in Children's Care and Education |
| CACPD | Council for the Advancement of Communication with Deaf People |
| CAD | Computer Aided Design |
| CAFCASS | Children and Families Court Advisory and Support Service |
| CAI | Computer Aided Instruction |
| CAL | Computer Aided Learning |
| CALLMI | Computer Assisted Local Labour Market Information |
| CAM | Computer Aided Manufacture |
| CAPs | Credit and Access Pathways |
| CAO/SAO | Chief/Senior Administrative Officer |
| CASE | Campaign for the Advancement of State Education |
| CAST | Co-operative Awards in Science and Technology |
| CAT | College of Advanced Technology |

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|----------------|--|
| CATE | Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education |
| CATS | Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme |
| CBE | Competency Based Education |
| CBET | Competency Based Education and Training |
| CBEVE | Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges |
| CBI | Confederation of British Industry |
| CBL | Competency Based Learning |
| CCs | Commercial Certificates |
| CC | County College |
| CCEA | Northern Ireland Council for the Curriculum, Examinations and Assessment |
| CCETs | Community Consortia for Education and Training |
| CCETSW | Central Council for Education and Training in Social Work |
| CCDU | Counselling and Career Development Unit |
| CCW | Curriculum Council for Wales |
| CDLs | Career Development Loans |
| CDP | Committee of Directors of Polytechnics |
| CDT | Craft Design and Technology |
| CEA | Council for Educational Advance |
| CEDEFOP | European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training |
| CEE | Certificate of Extended Education |
| CEF | College Employers Federation |
| CEF | Common European Framework |
| CEG | Careers Education and Guidance |
| CEI | Council of Engineering Institutions |
| CEL | Centre for Excellence in Leadership |
| CELP | College Employer Links Project |
| CEP | Community Education Programme |
| CEP | Community Enterprise Programme |
| CERI | Catering Education Research Institute |
| Cert Ed | Certificate of Education |
| GESI | Centre for Economic and Social Inclusion |
| CET | Council for Education Technology |
| CETTs | Centres for Excellence in Teacher Training |
| CfBT | Centre for British Teachers |
| CFE | College of Further Education |
| cfet | Computers for Further Education Teachers |

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|----------------|---|
| DENI | Department for Education, Northern Ireland |
| DEP | Department of Employment and Productivity |
| DES | Department of Education and Science |
| DfE | Department for Education |
| DfEE | Department for Education and Employment |
| DfES | Department for Education and Skills (formerly DfEE and DES) |
| Dip AD | Diploma in Art and Design |
| DipHE | Diploma in Higher Education |
| DipTech | Diploma in Technology |
| DLE | Demand-Led Element |
| DLF | Demand – Led- Funding |
| DoE | Department of Employment/Environment |
| DoI | Department of Industry |
| DoT | Department of Technology |
| DPSE | Diploma in Professional Studies in Education |
| DRC | Disability Rights Commission |
| DSA | Department of Science and Art |
| DTI | Department of Trade and Industry |
| DTLR | Department for Transport, Local Government and the Regions |
| DVE | Diploma of Vocational Education |
| DWP | Department of Work and Pensions |

E

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| E 1,2&3 | Entry levels 1, 2 & 3 |
| EA | Education Act |
| EAEB | East Anglia Examinations Board (CSE examinations) |
| EAG | Evaluation Advisory Group |
| EAS | Enterprise Allowance Scheme |
| EAV | Examining and Validating |
| EAZ | Educational Action Zone |
| EBP | Educational Business Partnership |
| EC(UK) | Engineering Council (UK) |
| ECCTIS | Education Counselling and Credit Transfer Information Service |
| ECDL | European Computer Driving Licence |
| ECITB | Engineering Construction Industry Training Board |
| ECTS | European Credit Transfer System |
| ECY | Extended College Year |

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|----------------|---|
| ED | Employment Department |
| EDAP | Employee Development and Assistance Programme |
| Edexcel | Awarding body formed from the merger of BTEC and ULEAC |
| EDI | Electronic Data Interchange |
| EDIM | Equality and Diversity Measures |
| EDS | Employee Development Scheme |
| EEC | Education and Employment Committee |
| EEC | European Economic Commission |
| EEN | Education for Enterprise Network |
| EES | European Employment Strategy |
| EFL | English as a Foreign Language |
| EGSA | Educational Guidance Service for Adults |
| EHE | Enterprise in Higher Education |
| EIC | Employment Induction Course |
| EIC | Excellence in Cities |
| EIS | Educational Institute of Scotland |
| EITB | Engineering Industry Training Board |
| ELLI | European Lifelong Learning Initiative |
| ELLIS | English Language Learning Instruction Service |
| ELWa | Education and Learning Wales (Created from merger of FEFCW and HEFCW) |
| EMA | Educational Maintenance Allowance |
| EMEU | East Midlands Educational Union |
| EMFEC | East Midlands Further Education Council |
| EMIE | Education Management Information Exchange |
| EMREB | East Midland Region Examinations Board (CSE examinations) |
| EMTA | Engineering and Marine Training Authority |
| ENB | English National Board (Nurse training) |
| EO | Equal Opportunities |
| EOC | Equal Opportunities Commission |
| EPA | Equal Pay Act |
| EPI | Employment Policy Institute |
| EQF | European Qualification Framework |
| ERA | Education Reform Act |
| ERC | Employment Rehabilitation Centre |
| ES | Employment Services |
| ESD | Employment Services Division (Part of MSC) |
| ESF | European Social Fund |

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|--------------|---|
| E2E | Entry to Employment |
| ESG | Education Support Grant (Specific grant for the then DES) |
| ESGE | Expenditure Steering Group for Education |
| ESL | English as a Second Language |
| ESOL | English for Speakers of Other Languages |
| ESRC | Economic and Social Research Council |
| ET | Employment Training |
| ET | Education and Training |
| ETAG | Education and Training Advisory Group |
| ETDG | Examination Techniques Development Group |
| ETF | Environmental Task Force |
| ETG | Environmental Task Group (Part of the New Deal Programme) |
| ETPs | Employer Training Pilots |
| EU | European Union |
| EV | External Verification/Verifier |
| EYDCP | Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership |
| EZs | Employment Zones |

F

| | |
|---------------|---|
| FAB | Federation of Awarding Bodies |
| FACE | Forum for the Advancement of Continuing Education |
| FD | Foundation Degree |
| FDA | Foundation Degree in Arts |
| FDf | Foundation Degree Forward |
| FDG | Foundation Degree Group |
| FDS | Foundation Degree in Science |
| FDS | First Destination Statistics |
| FE | Further Education |
| FEAT | Further Education Advisory Team |
| FEC | Further Education College |
| FECRDU | Further Education Curriculum Research and Development Unit (More commonly known as the FEU) |
| FEDA | Further Education Development Agency (Succeeded by FSDA) |
| FEI | Further Education Institute |
| FEFC | Further Education Funding Council |
| FEFCW | Further Education Funding Council Wales |

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|---------------|--|
| FEMIS | Further Education Management Information Service |
| fenc | Further education national consortium |
| FENTO | Further Education National Training Organisation |
| FERAS | Further Education Revenue Account Survey |
| FERA | Further Education Research Association |
| FERL | Further Education Resources for Learning |
| FERN | Further Education Research Network |
| FESC | Further Education Staff College (known more commonly as Coombe Lodge) |
| FESF | Further Education Standards Fund |
| FESR | Further Education Statistical Record |
| FETT | Further Education Teacher Training |
| FEU | Further Education Unit (Succeeded by FEDA and then by LSDA) |
| FfA | Framework for Achievement |
| FFORWM | The National Organisation for Further Education Colleges in Wales |
| FHE | Further and Higher Education |
| FL | Flexible Learning (Methods include open and distance learning, APL and transfer options) |
| FM | Functional Mathematics |
| FMA | Foundation Modern Apprenticeship |
| FRESA | Frameworks for Regional Employment and Skills Action |
| FSB | Federation of Small Businesses |
| FSMQ | Free Standing Mathematics Qualification |
| FSMUs | Free Standing Mathematics Units |
| FT | Full Time |
| FTC | Full Technological Certificate (CGLI) |
| FTE | Full Time Equivalent |

G

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| 'G' Course | General Course |
| GA | Graduate Apprenticeship |
| GC | Group Certificate |
| GCE | General Certificate of Education |
| GCSE | General Certificate of Secondary Education |
| GERBIL | General Education Reform Bill (1987) |
| GEST | Grants for Education and Support |
| GFE(C) | General Further Education (College) |

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|--------------|---|
| GIST | Girls into Science and Technology |
| GLH | Guided Learning Hours |
| GM | Grant Maintained |
| GNVQ | General National Vocational Qualification (Advanced, Intermediate and Foundation) |
| GO | Government Office |
| GP | Green Paper |
| GRIST | Grant-Related In-Service Training (Replaced by TRIST) |
| GS | General Studies |
| GSVQ | General Scottish Vocational Qualification |
| GTC | General Teaching Council |

H

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|----------------|--|
| HASWA | Health and Safety at Work Act |
| HCIMA | Hotel Catering and Institutional Management Association |
| HCOS | Higher Certificate in Office Studies |
| HCTB | Hotel and Catering Training Board |
| HE | Higher Education |
| HEFC(E) | Higher Education Funding Council (England) |
| HEFC(W) | Higher Education Funding Council (Wales) |
| HEI | Higher Education Institute |
| HEIF | Higher Education Innovation Fund |
| HEIST | Higher Education Information Services Trust |
| HELM | Higher Education and the Labour Market |
| HEQC | Higher Education Quality Council (Succeeded by QAA) |
| HEQED | Higher Education: Quality and Employability Division |
| HEROIC | Higher Education Reach Out to Industry and the Community |
| HESA | Higher Education Statistics Agency |
| HESDA | Higher Education Staff Development Agency |
| HMCI | Her Majesty's Chief Inspector |
| HMI | Her Majesty's Inspectorate |
| HMICA | Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Court Administration |
| HNC/D | Higher National Certificate/Diploma |
| HO | Home Office |
| HoD | Head of Department |

Holland Report *Young People at Work*, 1977, led to the creation of Youth Opportunities Programme (YOP)

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|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| HRA | Human Rights Act |
| HRD | Human Resources Department |
| HSC | Health and Safety Commission |
| HSC | Higher School Certificate |
| HSE | Health and Safety Executive |
| HSLC | Higher School Leaving Certificate |
| HTB | Hairdressing Training Board |

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|--------------|--|
| IAG | Information Advice and Guidance |
| IAP | Individual Action Plan |
| IB | International Baccalaureate |
| IB | Information Bank |
| ICAC | Intermediate Certificate in Art and Crafts |
| ICG | Institute of Careers Guidance |
| ICO | Institute of Careers Officers |
| ICT | Information Communication Technology |
| IE | Industry/Education Unit |
| IES | Institute for Employment Services |
| IfL | Institute for Learning |
| IFS | Institute of Fiscal Studies |
| iiE | Industry in Education |
| iiP | Investors in People |
| ILA | Individual Learning Account |
| ILB | Industrial Lead Body (Later became NTOs) |
| ILM | Institute of Leadership and Management |
| ILP | Individual Learning Plan |
| ILR | Individual Learning Record |
| ILT | Information Learning Technology |
| ILT | Institute of Learning and Teaching |
| ILTHe | Institute of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education |
| IMS | Institute of Manpower Studies |
| INSET | In-Service Education and Training |
| IoD | Institute of Directors |
| IPPR | Institute for Public Policy Research |
| IS | Information System |
| ISI | Institute for Scientific Information |
| ISR | Individual Student Record |
| IT | Information Technology |

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|--------------|---|
| ITALS | Initial Teacher Award – Learning and Skills |
| ITB | Industry/Industrial Training Board |
| ITE | Initial Teacher Education |
| ITEC | Information Technology Centre |
| ITO | Industry Training Organisation |
| ITP | Individual Training Plan |
| ITRU | Industrial Training Research Unit |
| ITT | Initial Teacher Training |
| IV | Internal Verification/ Verifier |
| IWA | Institute for Welsh Affairs |
| IWF | Institutional Weighting Factor |

J

| | |
|--------------|--|
| JANET | Joint Academic Network (Network linking universities and other HE institutions) |
| JBPVE | Joint Board for Pre-Vocational Education |
| JCGQ | Joint Council for General Qualifications |
| JCP | Job Centre Plus |
| JCQ | Joint Council for Qualifications |
| JCS | Job Creation Scheme (Short lived scheme introduced by MSC in 1975) JES Joint Efficiency Study |
| JETI | Jobs, Education and Training Information |
| JIS | Job Introduction Scheme |
| JISC | Joint Information Systems Committee |
| JMB | Joint Matriculation Board ('A' and 'O' levels) |
| JNC | Joint Negotiating Committee |
| JRS | Job Release Scheme |
| JSA | Jobseeker's Allowance |
| JSS | Job Splitting Scheme |
| JTS | Job Training Scheme (MSC programme) |
| JTS | Junior Technical School |

K

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| KS | Key Skills |
| KS 1/2/3/4 | Key Stage (1 to 4 in schools) in National Curriculum |
| KSA | Key Skills Assessment |
| KSSP | Key Skills Support Programme |

L

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|--------------------|---|
| LA | Local Authority |
| LA | Library Association |
| LA | Learning Aim |
| LAA | Local Authority Association |
| LACSAB | Local Authorities' Conditions of Service Advisory Board |
| LAPSEC | Local Authority Post-School Education Co-ordinating Committee |
| LAR | Learner Achievement Record |
| LBs | Lead Bodies |
| LC | Learning Card |
| LCC | London Chamber of Commerce |
| LCCG | Learning Card Consultation Group |
| LCCI/LCCIEB | London Chamber of Commerce and Industry Examinations Board |
| LCP | Local Collaborative Project |
| LD | Learner Databank |
| LEA | Local Education Authority |
| LEATG | Local Education Authority Training Grants Scheme |
| LEATS | Local Education Authority Training Scheme |
| LearnDirect | LearnDirect (University for Industry) |
| LEC | Local Enterprise Council (Scottish equivalent of the TECs) |
| LEN | Local Employer Networks |
| LET | Learning from Experience Trust |
| LeTTOL | Learning to Teach On-Line |
| LlLFE | Literacies for Learning in Further Education |
| LFS | Labour Force Survey |
| LGA | Local Government Association |
| LGTB | Local Government Training Board |
| LIBs | Lead Industry Bodies |
| LIC | Local Information Centre |
| LIF | Local Initiative Fund |
| LINC | Learning in Neighbourhood Centres |
| LLMI | Local Labour Market Information/Intelligence |
| LLN | Language, Literacy and Numeracy |
| LLPs | Local Lifelong Learning Partnerships |
| LLSC | Local Learning and Skills Council |
| LLUK | Lifelong Learning UK |
| LMC | Local Management of Colleges |
| LME | London Matriculation Examinations |
| LMI | Labour Market Information/Intelligence |

| | |
|----------------|--|
| LMS | Labour Market Survey |
| LNE | Literacy, Numeracy and ESOL |
| LP | Learning Partnership |
| LP | Learning Programme |
| LRC | Learning Resource Centre |
| LREB | London Region Examinations Board |
| LRS | Learner Registration Service |
| LSC | Learning and Skills Council |
| L&S | Learning and Skills |
| LSDA | Learning and Skills Development Agency (formerly FEDA) |
| LSRC | Learning and Skills Research Centre |
| LSSF | Learning and Skills Standard Fund |
| LTSN | Learning and Teaching Support Network |
| LUEs | London University Examinations |
| LUEB | London University Extension Board |

M

| | |
|--------------|---|
| MA | Managing Agents |
| MA | Modern Apprenticeship |
| MAAC | Modern Apprenticeship Advisory Committee |
| MAFF | Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food |
| MARIS | Materials and Resources Information Service |
| MaSN | Maximum Student Number |
| MC | Matriculation Certificate |
| MDF | Mutual Development Fund (Managed by FEU/TA) |
| MEP | Microelectronic Education Programme |
| MI | Management Information |
| MIN | Modular Information Network |
| MIS | Management Information System |
| MLE | Managed Learning Environment |
| MoE | Ministry of Education |
| MSC | Manpower Services Commission |
| MSC | Management Standards Centre |

N

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|--------------|--|
| NAB | National Advisory Body for Public Sector HE (Replaced by PCFC) |
| NACAB | National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux |
| NACAE | National Advisory Council on Art Education |

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|---------------|---|
| NACCE | National Advisory Committee on Creative and Cultural Education |
| NACEIC | National Advisory Council on Education for Industry and Commerce |
| NACETT | National Advisory Council for Education and Training Targets |
| NACP | National Association of Connexions Partnerships |
| NACRO | National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders |
| NACVS | National Association of Councils for Voluntary Service |
| NAEGA | National Association for Educational Guidance for Adults |
| NAFE | Non-Advanced Further Education |
| NALS | National Adult Learners Survey |
| NAO | National Audit Office |
| NAPAEO | National Association of Principal Agricultural Education Officers |
| NASD | National Association for Staff Development |
| NATFHE | National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education |
| NBHS | National Bureau for Handicapped Students |
| NBR | National Base Rate |
| NCA | National Certificate in Agriculture |
| NC | National Certificate |
| NC | National Curriculum |
| NCC | National Computing Centre |
| NCC | National Curriculum Council |
| NCDAD | National Council for Diplomas in Art and Design |
| NCE | National Commission on Education |
| NCET | National Council for Educational Technology (Became BECTa) |
| NCF | National Curriculum Framework |
| NCFE | Northern Council for Further Education |
| NVG | National Consultative Group for the Co-ordination of Validation Arrangements in Agriculture and Related Subject |
| NCH | National Certificate in Horticulture |
| NCTA | National Council for Technological Awards |
| NCTEC | Northern Counties Technical Examinations Council |
| NCTET | National Council for Teacher Education and Training |
| NCVO | National Council for Voluntary Organisations |

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|----------------|--|----------------|--|
| NCVQ | National Council for Vocational Qualifications | NLSC | National Learning Skills Council |
| ND | New Deal | NLT | National Learning Target |
| ND 50+ | New Deal for the over 50s | NLT | National Literacy Trust |
| NDC | National Disability Council | NNEB | Nursery Nurses Examination Board |
| NDD | National Diploma in Design | NOCN | National Open College Network |
| NDDP | New Deal for Disabled People | NOF | National Opportunities Fund |
| NDIF | New Deal Innovation Fund | NPFA | National Provider Financial Assurance |
| NDLP | New Deal for Lone Parents | NPS | National Preferred Scheme |
| NDLTU | New Deal for the Long-Term Unemployed | NPTC | National Proficiency Test Council |
| NDPA | New Deal Personal Adviser | NQF | National Qualifications Framework |
| NDPU | New Deal for the Partners of the Unemployed | NRA | National Record of Achievement |
| NDYP | New Deal for Young Unemployed | NRAG | National Rates Advisory Group |
| NEB | National Examination Board (Shorter title for NEBAHAI) | NRDC | National Retail Distribution Certificate |
| NEBAHAI | National Examination Board for Agriculture, Horticulture and Allied Industries | NRDCALN | National Research and Development Centre for Adult Literacy and Numeracy |
| NEBOSH | National Examinations Board in Occupational Safety and Health | NROVA | National Record of Vocational Achievement |
| NEBPN | National Education Business Partnership Network | NSA | National Skills Academy |
| NEBSM | National Examinations Board for Supervisory and Management | NSDR | National Summary Data Report |
| NEBSS | National Examination Board in Supervisory Studies | NSEAD | National Society for Education in Art and Design |
| NEC | National Extension College | NSF | National Skills Force |
| NEDO | National Economic Development Office | NSTF | National Skills Task Force |
| NEG | NAFE Evaluation Group | NSTOs | Non Statutory Training Organisations |
| NETP | National Employers Training Programme | NT | National Traineeship (Replaced by FMA) |
| NFEC | National Forum for Engineering in Colleges | NTA | National Training Award |
| NFER | National Foundation for Educational Research in England and Wales | NTET | National Targets for Education and Training |
| NGfL | National Grid for Learning | NTI | New Training Initiative |
| NHSU | National Health Service University | NTIs | New Technology Institutes |
| NIACE | National Institute for Adult Continuing Education | NTO | National Training Organisation (Succeeded by SSC) |
| NIAE | National Institute of Adult Education | NTOD | National Training Organisations Division |
| NICEC | National Institute for Careers Guidance and Counselling | NTONC | National Training Organisation National Council |
| NIG | NAFE Implementation Group | NTP | New Training Initiative |
| NILTA | National Information and Learning Technology Association | NJTS | New Job Training Scheme |
| NJTS | New Job Training Scheme | NUS | National Union of Students |
| NLN | National Learning Network | NUJMB | Northern Universities Joint Matriculation Board |
| NLS | National Literacy Strategy | NVH | New Vocational Horizons |
| | | NVQ | National Vocational Qualification |
| | | NVYOs | National Voluntary Youth Organisations |
| | | NWREB | North West Regional Examinations Board (CSE examinations) |
| | | NWS | New Workers Scheme |

O

| | |
|---------------|---|
| O | Ordinary level |
| OC | Open College |
| OCF | Open College Federation |
| OCN | Open College Network |
| OCR | Oxford Cambridge Royal Society of Arts Examination |
| OCSEC | Oxford and Cambridge Schools Examination Council ('A' and 'O' levels) |
| ODLE | Oxford Delegacy of Local Examinations ('A' and 'O' levels) |
| ODLQC | Open and Distance Learning Quality Council |
| OECD | Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development |
| Ofsted | Office for Standards in Education |
| OLF | Open Learning Foundation |
| OLS | Open Learning System |
| OLSU | Offenders' Learning and Skills Unit |
| ONC/D | Ordinary National Certificate/Diploma |
| 1-2-1 | Replaced by Jobfinder Plus |
| ONS | Office for National Statistics |
| OPPs | On Programme Payments |
| OPSR | Office of Public Service Reform |
| ORF | Output Related Funding |
| ORT | Organisation for Rehabilitation through Training |
| OSCs | Occupational Standards Councils |
| OST | Office for Science and Technology |
| OT | Other Training |
| OT | Open Tech |
| OTF | Occupational Training Family |
| OTJ | Off-the Job Training |
| OU | Open University |

P

| | |
|-------------|---|
| PAR | Programme Analysis and Review |
| PAT | Professional Association of Teachers |
| PBTE | Performance Based Teacher Education |
| PCAS | Polytechnics Central Admissions System |
| PCET | Post Compulsory Education and Training |
| PCFC | Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council |
| PDP | Personal Development Plan |

| | |
|---------------|---|
| PEI | Pitman Examination Institute |
| PEL | Paid Education Leave |
| PER | Professional and Executive Recruitment |
| PESC | Public Expenditure Survey Committee |
| PEVE | Post Experience Vocational Education |
| PFI | Private Finance Initiative |
| PGCE | Postgraduate Certificate in Education |
| PIs | Performance Indicators |
| PICKUP | Professional, Industrial and Commercial Updating Programme (Programmes for employed adults) |
| PIDA | Public Interest Disclosure Act |
| PISCI | Pre-Inspection and School Context Indicator |
| PIU | Performance and Innovation Unit |
| PJA | Personal Job Account |
| PLSU | Prisoners Learning Skills Unit |
| PPP | Public Private Partnerships |
| PRAISE | Pilot Records of Achievement in Schools Evaluation |
| PRT | Programme Review Team |
| PSA | Public Service Agreements |
| PSHE | Public Sector Higher Education |
| PSI | Policy Studies Institute |
| PT | Part Time |
| PTP | Private Training Provider |
| PW | Programme Weighting |

Q

| | |
|----------------|---|
| QA | Quality Assurance |
| QAA | Quality Assurance Agency |
| QCA | Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (Formed by the merger of SCAA and NCVQ) |
| QET | Quality in Education and Training |
| QIA | Quality Improvement Agency |
| QNCA | Qualifications and National Curriculum (Initial title for QCA) |
| QUANGO | Quasi Autonomous Non-Governmental Organisation |
| QUILT | Quality Information and Learning Technology |
| QTLS | Qualified Teacher of Learning and Skills |
| QT(S) | Qualified Teacher (Status) |
| Qualdat | JCQ data base |

R

| | |
|----------------|---|
| RACs | Regional Advisory Councils (These were established in 1946 to ensure co-operation between authorities and co-ordinate the provision of both AFE and NAFE-now disbanded) |
| RAE | Research Assessment Exercise |
| RANSC | Records of Achievement National Steering Committee |
| RAPAL | Research and Practice in Adult Literacy |
| RBL | Resource Based Learning |
| RCB | Regional Curriculum Board |
| RCCDE | Regional Council for Colleges and Departments of Education |
| RCP | Responsive College Project |
| RCR | Royal Commission Report |
| RCU | Responsive College Unit |
| RDA | Regional Development Agency |
| REBs | Regional Examination Boards/Bodies |
| REFED | Refugee Education and Employment Programme |
| REPLAN | DES programme to promote development of educational opportunities for the adult unemployed |
| RESTART | MSC programme for the long-term unemployed |
| REUs | Regional Examining Unions |
| RI | Reporting Inspector |
| RMC | Regional Management Centre |
| RMCA | Regional Management Centre Association |
| RoA | Record of Achievement |
| RoC | Rules of Combination |
| ROSLA | Raising of the School Leaving Age |
| RQA | Raising Quality and Achievement |
| RRA | Race Relations Act |
| RSA | Royal Society of Arts |
| RSG | Rate Support Grant |
| RSI | Regional Staff Inspector |
| RSSL | Recruitment Subsidy for School Leavers |
| RTG | Real Term Guarantee |
| RVCF | Regional Venture Capital Funds |
| RVQ | Review of Vocational Qualifications |
| RVQs | Related Vocational Qualifications |
| RWE | Realistic Working Environment |

S

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|-----------------|---|
| SA | Skills Academies |
| SA | Skills Alliance |
| SAAS | Student Awards Agency for Scotland |
| SACCA | Scottish Advisory Committee on Credit and Access |
| SAD | Science and Art Department |
| SAL | Supported Autonomous Learning |
| SANCAD | Scottish Association for National Certificates and Diplomas |
| SAR | Self Assessment Report |
| SAR | Students Attendance Ratio |
| SBC | Small Business Council |
| SBN | Skills for Business Network |
| SBS | Small Business Service |
| SC | School Certificate |
| SC | Schools Council |
| SCAA | Schools' Curriculum and Assessment Authority |
| SCCAPE | Scottish Council for Commercial Administration and Professional Education |
| SCDC | School Curriculum Development Committee |
| SCETT | Standing Conference for the Education and Training of Teachers in the Public Sector |
| SCONUL | Standing Conference of National and University Librarians |
| SCOP | Standing Committee of Principals |
| SCOTBEC | Scottish Business Education Council |
| SCOTCATS | Scottish Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme |
| SCOTEC | Scottish Technician Education Council |
| SCOTVEC | Scottish Vocational Education Council |
| SCQF | Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework |
| SCR | Select Committee Report |
| SCRAC | Standing Conference of Regional Advisory Councils |
| SCRE | Scottish Council for Research into Education |
| SCREB | Standing Conference of Regional Examination Boards |
| SCTEB | Standing Conference of Technical Examining Bodies |
| SCUE | Standing Conference on University Entrance |

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| TCS | Teaching Company Scheme |
| TCT | Technology Colleges Trust |
| TDG | Technical Data Group |
| TDLB | Training and Development Lead Body |
| TEC | Technician Education Council |
| TECNC | Training and Enterprise Councils National Council |
| TECs | Training and Enterprise Councils |
| TEED | Training Enterprise and Education Directorate |
| TEN | Training and Employment Network |
| TES | Times Education Supplement |
| TES | Temporary Employment Subsidy |
| TfT | Technologies for Training |
| TFT | Technology and Flexible Training |
| TfW | Training for Work |
| THES | Times Higher Education Supplement |
| TiE | Technology in Education |
| TIS | Travel to Interview Scheme |
| T & L | Teaching and Learning |
| TLTP | The Teaching and Learning Technology Programme |
| TOC | Training Occupational Classification |
| TOPS | Training Opportunities Scheme |
| TP | Teachers' Pensions |
| TPI | Teachers Pay Initiative |
| TQM | Total Quality Management |
| TRACE | Training for and Approaches to Careers Education |
| TRADEC | Trades Education Courses |
| TRIST | TVEI-Related In-Service Training |
| TSA | Training Standards Agency |
| TSC | Training Standards Council (Replaced by ALI) |
| TSD | Training Services Division (Part of the MSC) |
| TSO | The Stationery Office |
| TSP | Training for Skills Programme |
| TT | Teacher Training |
| TTA | Teacher Training Agency |
| TtG | Train to Gain |
| TfW | Training for Work |
| TTWA | Travel to Work Area |
| TU | Trade Union |
| TUC | Trade Union Congress |
| TVEI | Technical Vocational Education Initiative |
| TWs | Training Workshops |

U

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|---------------|---|
| UABs | Unitary Awarding Boards/Bodies |
| UACE | Universities Association for Continuing Education |
| UBI | Understanding British Industry |
| UCAS | Universities and Colleges Admissions Service |
| UCCA | Universities Central Council on Admissions |
| UCET | Universities Council for the Education of Teachers |
| UCLES | University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (now Cambridge Assessment) |
| UCoSDA | Universities and Colleges Staff Development Agency |
| UCU | University and Colleges Union (formerly AUT and NATFHE) |
| UD | Unit Databank |
| UDACE | Unit for the Development of Adult Continuing Education |
| UDEs | University Departments of Education |
| UDILs | University Directors of Industrial Liaison |
| UEB | University Extension Board |
| UEI | Union of Educational Institutions |
| UFC | Universities Funding Council |
| Ufi | University for Industry |
| UGC | University Grants Council |
| UI | Understanding Industry |
| UKCOSA | United Kingdom Council for Overseas Student Affairs |
| UKRLP | UK Register for Learning Providers |
| UKSC | United Kingdom Standing Conference of Management Heads |
| ULCI | Union of Lancashire and Cheshire Institutions |
| ULF | Union Learning Fund |
| ULN | Unique Learner Number |
| ULR | Union Learning Representative |
| U3A | University of the Third Age |
| UoD | Unit of Delivery |
| UUK | Universities UK |
| UVAC | University Vocational Awards Council |
| UVP | Unified Vocational Preparation (DES and TSD programme) |

V

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|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| VABs | Vocational Awarding Bodies |
| VCE | Vocational Certificates in Education |
| VCOs | Voluntary and Community Organisations |
| VET | Vocational Education and Training |
| VFM | Value for Money |
| VLE | Virtual Learning Environment |
| VPP | Voluntary Projects Programmes |
| VRQs | Vocationally Related Qualifications |
| VSF | Voluntary Sector Fund |

W

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| WAB | Welsh Advisory Body for Local Authority Higher Education |
| WBA | Web Based Assessment/Accreditation |
| WBL | Work Based Learning/Learner |
| WBLA | Work Based Learning for Adults |
| WBLP | Work Based Learning Project |
| WBLYP | Work Based Learning for Young People |
| WBP | Work Based Project |
| WBSN | Work Basic Skills Network |
| WBTA | Work Based Training for Adults |
| WDCs | Workforce Development Confederations |
| WDSU | Workforce Strategy Unit |
| WEA | Workers Educational Association |
| WEEP | Work Experience on Employers Premises |
| WEP | Work Experience Programme |
| WF | Work Foundation |
| WfD | Workforce Development |
| WIC | Work Introduction Course |
| WISK | Work Skill Course |
| WJEC | Welsh Joint Education Committee ('A' and 'O' levels) |
| WMACFE | West Midlands Advisory Council for Further Education |
| WMEB | West Midland Examinations Board (CSE examinations) |
| WO | Welsh Office |
| WOP | Wider Opportunities Training Programme |
| WP | White Paper |
| WP | Widening Participation |

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| WPU | Widening Participation Unit |
| WRNAFE | Work Related Non-Advanced Further Education |

XYZ

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| YALP | Young Adults Learners' Partnership |
| YC | Youth Credit |
| YCS | Youth Cohort Survey |
| YPLC | Young People's Learning Committee |
| YE | Young Enterprise |
| YEI | Youth Enterprise Initiative |
| YES | Youth Employment Subsidy (An MSC scheme) |
| YHAFHE | Yorkshire and Humberside Association for Further and Higher Education |
| YHREB | Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Examinations Board (CSE examinations) |
| YJB | Youth Justice Board |
| YOP | Youth Opportunities Programme was under the Special Programmes Division on the MSC |
| YOUTH AID | Youth unemployment pressure group |
| YS | Youth Service |
| YSF | Youth Service Forum |
| YSS | Youth Support Service |
| YT | Youth Training |
| YTP | Youth Training Programme |
| YTS | Youth Training Scheme |
| YUMI | Yorkshire Union of Mechanics Institutes |
| YWS | Young Workers Scheme |
| ZBB | Zero Based Budget |

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