

Twinkl Symbols continues to empower children with SEND who struggle to communicate

UK – 14 September 2026

By renewing its 'nasen assured' status, Twinkl Symbols continues to provide vital support for developing communication skills in children with SEND.

National Inclusion Week takes place from 14 to 20 September 2026, and Twinkl is continuing to support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) through Twinkl Symbols, a suite of specialised, teacher-created resources that address their social communication, interaction, sensory, physical, emotional and mental health needs.

Created by educators, Twinkl Symbols has had its 'nasen assured' status renewed for the next two years, still being the only AAC solution to have the accreditation in the UK. This recognition comes from the National Association for Special Educational Needs (nasen), the UK's leading professional membership body for special educational needs and disabilities (SEND).

According to the DfE¹ there are around 1.8 million pupils in England who have special educational needs (SEN) in 2026 which makes supplying them with the right tools essential in breaking down barriers to learning, enabling everyone to thrive.

Twinkl's SEND learning resources can be helpful to teachers, parents or carers, looking for some support and resources to use at school and at home. Currently used in over 10,000 schools, 1,000 homes and multiple healthcare settings [Twinkl Symbols](#), offers three integrated content lines featuring 12,000 symbols and 200,000 illustrations, to help both learners and the adults supporting them with:

- [ready-made Symbols resources](#),
- [a web tool](#) for customising materials, and
- a mobile app for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC), available on the [App Store](#) or on [Google Play](#).

How to support SEND pupils who struggle to communicate using visual aids

Twinkl Symbols provides tools to enhance both receptive and expressive language. The Symbols web tool can be used to create customised symbolised materials such as communication boards and books tailored to individual learners needs, activities, or environments. Additionally, the Symbols Augmentative and Alternative Communication

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<https://explore-education-statistics.service.gov.uk/find-statistics/special-educational-needs-in-england/2025-26>

(AAC) app offers a way to support communication and choice-making in everyday situations at home, school, and in the community.

Visual aids help enhance receptive and expressive language by providing consistent, familiar communication tools. These aids support choice-making and understanding, and the visual identity of Twinkl Symbols is designed to be welcoming, and friendly, which makes the product accessible and easy to use.

What is AAC and how can it support children with SEND?

Augmentative and Alternative Communication (AAC) refers to systems that support communication for individuals who may be pre-verbal, not use spoken language, or struggle to understand verbal or written communication. The Twinkl Symbols AAC mobile app provides consistent symbol support across school, home, and community environments, helping learners express themselves, make choices, and engage in conversation wherever they are by interacting with images.

How can AAC be used to support communication in the classroom and at home?

The AAC mobile app can be used to ensure learners have access to the tools they need to communicate while on the go. By using consistent, familiar tools—such as resources and digital applications that keep communication simple— teachers and parents can provide support in everyday life situations and curriculum-linked scenarios, ensuring a consistent approach regardless of the setting.

How the Twinkl Symbols AAC app supports SEND learners

AAC apps like Twinkl Symbols can make a difference in children's education due to:

- Accessibility and portability, allowing access on the go across a range of devices.
- Consistency, by providing familiar, consistent support to keep communication simple.
- Curriculum-linked content, with content that links to everyday life situations and curriculum topics.
- Affordability, providing a cost-effective, affordable solution that remains accessible to all. The web tool and app are completely free to use.
- Personalisation supporting the experience that relates to everyday communication.

To build confidence and teaching skills all year round, Twinkl also provides CPD materials, TeachMeets, and blog posts that provide in-depth guidance on how Twinkl Symbols can help children with SEND and how the resources, web tool and app can be used.

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Media Enquiries

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Notes to Editor

About Twinkl

[Twinkl](#) was founded in 2010 by husband and wife Jonathan and Susie Seaton, with a mission 'to help those who teach'. The company provides high quality learning materials and educational services, which are all teacher-created and checked.

Today, Twinkl offers over 1.5 million resources via its website, with new content added daily. These range from classroom content and assessments, to AI tools and augmented reality games. Twinkl is used and trusted by schools and educators across the UK, and in over 200 countries and regions around the world - including primary and secondary school teachers, nursery workers and parents.