

Is ‘Business Jargon’ one of your ‘Pet Hates’ in the office?

Business jargon and terminology has become increasingly common in the work place with a recent study undertaken by Jurys Inn and Cross-country trains showing that 55% of office workers admit to using business slang on a daily basis. 39% of these workers consider excessive use of business jargon to be a pet hate with these tending to be in the over 55s age group. The most likely to use business jargon are those between 25 and 34 age bracket. ‘Going forward’, ‘thinking outside the box’ and ‘close of play’ are the most common terms used by workers.

So why do workers feel the need to use business jargon? Head of Sales at Jurys Inn, Marc Webster explains that the use of business terminology can make workers feel more important or ‘in the loop’. It can also be used by individuals in an attempt to climb the career ladder.

In an attempt to assist those who wish to avoid using business jargon ‘moving forwards’, Jurys Inn has created a Business Jargon Prompt Sheet. ‘Ping it over/on’ can be translated to ‘email it over to me’ and ‘getting your ducks in a row’ to ‘ensuring everything is clear and organised’

| Business Jargon | Or you could say... |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Actioned | Completed |
| Blue sky thinking | Thinking creatively |
| Bottom line | Profitability |
| Bounce ideas around | Share ideas |
| Business as usual (BAU) | No change |
| Close of play/business (COP/COB) | Before you leave the office |
| Deliver | Finish the job on time |
| Ducks in a row | Get everything organised |
| Fire off an email | Send out an email |
| Flag it up | Make someone aware |
| Heads up | Let me know |
| Ideas shower | Brainstorm |
| In the loop | Keep me updated |
| In the pipeline | Coming up/on the agenda |
| Issue a document | Send out a document |
| Let’s put it on the backburner | Let’s drop this idea |
| Let’s take it offline | Let’s discuss it later |
| Liaise | Make contact/converse |
| Moving forward | In the future |
| Passing the buck | Passing on responsibility |
| Ping it over/on | Email it over |
| Progress | Move something on |
| Proof it | Check it |
| Put the feelers out | Assess the situation |
| Reach out | Make contact |
| Quick win | Easy guaranteed success |
| Sticking to my guns | Sticking to what you believe in |
| Thinking outside the box | Thinking creatively |
| Timeframe | When a task will be completed |
| What’s the root cause? | What’s the underlying problem |