



Vocabulary Policy

2020-2021

Rationale and research

Spoken language and vocabulary is an essential element of the curriculum as it is one of the main instruments of learning and communication throughout life. It underpins the development of reading and writing and creates opportunities in school for children to enquire about, explore and develop their knowledge across the school curriculum and beyond. The ability to communicate effectively supports children's self-esteem, confidence, thinking skills and achievement. Research shows that a child's ability to communicate is a key indicator of future outcomes in adulthood even at an early age: by ages 3-6 years, a child's narrative skills are a powerful predictor of literacy skill at 8-12 years and by 5 years old, their vocabulary will predict their educational success at 30.

Poor vocabulary knowledge is also identified as the primary cause of academic failure of disadvantaged students: children with language difficulties at age 5 are four times more likely to have reading difficulties in adulthood, three times as likely to have mental health problems, and twice as likely to be unemployed. This lack of vocabulary causes a ripple effect across a child's curriculum knowledge, limiting their reading comprehension and even impacting on their maths skills: a child who is not at the expected standard in language at the age of five is 11 times less likely to achieve the expected level in maths at age 11.

With all this research in mind, it is clear that a robust, discrete and immersive approach to teaching vocabulary and the ability to speak confidently is vital at Thorntree Academy. By providing a language rich environment where adults model and demonstrate good speaking and listening skills; expose the children to a richer bank of words and provide opportunities for discrete teaching and speaking skill practise, we will begin to close the language gap for our children.

Active Ingredients

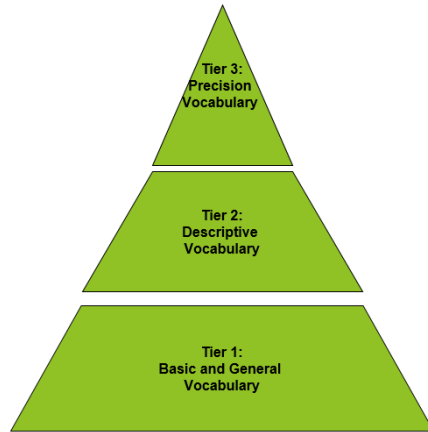
At Thorntree Academy, we use the following active ingredients to ensure that the teaching of vocabulary is consistent and shows progression across school. These active ingredients are our core principles of our vocabulary teaching which are the cornerstone for improving children's vocabulary. Teachers are then able to use these principles alongside their assessment knowledge to create appropriate opportunities for learning language across their curriculum. Our active ingredients are as follows:

- Tier 2 and Tier 3 word lists for each year group to match each topic
- Discrete weekly vocabulary lessons where new vocabulary from each list is taught
- Planned opportunities for retrieval of previously taught vocabulary
- Tier 2 and 3 vocabulary used across the curriculum where appropriate
- A spoken presentation on the half term's topic prepared by the children using tier 2 and 3 vocabulary as a chance to practise speaking skills, use vocabulary learnt and to summarise learning

Explicit teaching

Quiggley (2018) states that 'Vocabulary teaching can be incidental, disorganised and limited, when it needs to be organised, cumulative and rich.' Therefore, at Thorntree Academy, vocabulary is discretely and explicitly taught weekly as a minimum. Robust and progressive lists of tier 2 and tier 3 words are used to do this. Explicitly teaching vocabulary, as well as chance for incidental learning, is incredibly important. Research shows that by explicitly teaching an extra 300-400 words a year, we can foster an annual growth of 3000-4000 words. During explicit teaching sessions, teachers are responsible for choosing the appropriate lesson and timing to introduce these words. Vocabulary is discretely introduced and explored across school using 10 different formats age-appropriately. Once taught, the teacher is then responsible for planning opportunities for the children to practise embedding these words across the curriculum during writing and discussion.

Tiers of Vocabulary



The English Vocabulary is divided into three levels or tiers of words: these tiers are based on the descriptive value of the word and form the basis of our word lists in each year group.

- Tier 1 - The most basic words. These words rarely require direct instruction and do not have multiple meanings; words of everyday speech. These are high frequency, basic sight words.
- Tier 2 - High frequency words that occur across a variety of domains; mature language situations such as adult conversations and literature. Vocabulary in this tier have multiple meanings and synonyms and are used across a variety of subjects or environments.
- Tier 3 - Low frequency words very specific to a subject, hobbies, subjects, occupations, geographic regions, technology, weather, etc.

At Thorntree Academy, both tier 2 and tier 3 word lists have been created to match each cornerstones topic:

<u>Tier 2 Words</u>	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYFS	Family Friend Caring Love Kind Company Together Safe Help Share Home Feelings					Move Change Temperature Container Equipment Same Land Investigate Animal Air Features describe
Year 1/2	Strong Consider Common Weight Check Travel Shape Surface Test Rock List above	steadfast scramble remarkable grand lament admire dainty whirl gutter swish fetch misfortune	Ghastly Scramble Concoct Appetizing Brazen Podgy Graft Accomplish Perch Devour Gusto baffle	grizzly wicked marvellous mischief absurd solemn shrill quiver ponder rigid puncture grotesque	Cavern Padded Puzzled Boils uncertain confiscate muse mutter tread mayor frantic topsy-turvy	Catastrophe Rage Industrious Minute Submerge Queasy Eerie Voyage Shabby Precious Dusk Dawn
Year 3	Ancient Perform Act Advantage Triumph Continent Examine Loyal	Adaption Carnivore Consumer Decompose Herbivore Nutrient Omnivore Producer	bake brand citrus energy festival flavour fruit herb			Capture Scatter Launch Triumph Examine Suitable Attract Collect

	Respect Brave Bold Fierce	Predator Prey hunt Species	healthy ingredient meat oil recipe taste texture			Journey Observe Plunge Wander
Year 4	Capital Vast Entertain Baggage Frequent Extraordinary Typical Circular Recognise Address Elaborate Reluctant	Primitive Optimist Attempt Lack Limb Assist Basic Queasy Focus Develop Peer Diligent	Digest Examine Diagram Average Concern Recognise Practise Frequent Attempt Entire Digest Observe	Erupt Destructive Hostile Ascend Descend Jagged Complete Blossom Terrain Radiate Prominent Peculiar	Arena Noble Competition Threat Abrupt Practice Fragile Frantic Precious Futile Remorse Arrogant	Vital Inevitable Sanctuary Consequence Dwell Severe Distress Disaster Habitat Precious Shallow Release
Year 5	Constructed Ransacked Arid Hierarchy Edicts Segregated Deluge Proceed Sheathe Meticulously Substantial Pivotal	Inhabitable Prominent Adversary Assignment Celestial Contribution Expansion Exploration Magnitude Parallel Observation Spherical	expansion industrious expeditiously unearthed profound integral significance revolutionised abundance population conurbation transportation	plummet accelerated incline intertwine myriad vibrant pulsating iridescent alluring revolving trepidation obscuring	Vegetation Landscape Horticultural Agriculture Hedgerow Scarify Cultivation Established Acreage Disseminate Procedure Disperse	Transgression Peasant Prosperous Exorbitant Amalgamation Reformation Dissolution Convicted Hostility Abolished Exasperated Acrimonious
Year 6	Authority Swarm	Desolate Contrast	Trepidation Crucial	Mechanism Onslaught		Conventional Articulate

	Civil Justify Dominate Discriminate Evade Regime Perspective Welfare Strategy Occupy	Imperative Evaluate Utilise Perceive Environment Structure Pursue Perish Deprived Exasperate	Establish Category Diverse Obtain Contribute Hence Attitude Equate Evident	Exceptional Agile Proficient Turbulent Wrath Scathed Compassion Rigorous Industrious Manufacture Hostile Lurk Insinuate Quench Acrid Persecute Allegiance Pelt	Impede Luminous Confiscate Sublime Avid Rebuke Aspect External Stimulus Constrain
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Where words are repeated, spaced retrieval will be used to re-visit vocabulary rather than further explicit teaching.

<u>Tier 3 Words</u>	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
EYFS						
Year 1/2	Bridge Castle Drawbridge Engineer Human features Man-made Material Physical features Structure Tower Tunnel Turret	Conductor Harmony Pulse Rhythm Tempo Dynamics Pitch Verse Chorus Beat Orchestra percussion	Cargo Keel Main deck Mast Navigate Pirate code Poop deck Port Rudder Sea shanty Shipwreck smuggler	Mixture Capacity Morph Consistency Recipe Flexible Freeze Melt Hygienic Waterproof Ingredient hazard	Entomology Abdomen Antenna Camouflage Chrysalis Classification Colony Larva Pollen Pooter Pupa Thorax	Algae Beachcomber Cliff Coast Crustacean Dune Exoskeleton Island Mollusc Rock pool Seashore shingle
Year 3	City-state civilization Conquer dedicate, Democracy God Hoplite labyrinth Minotaur Myth Peloponnesian War philosopher	Adaption Carnivore Consumer Decomposer Ectoparasite Endoparasite Herbivore Nutrient Omnivore Producer Predator Prey	Cacao Bean Calorie Fat Fibre Logo Mineral Fair trade Nutrient Processed Slogan Sugar vitamin	Avalanche Archaeologist Earthquakes Igneous rock Sedimentary rock Metamorphic rock Tremor Volcanic ash Eruption Pompeii Tectonic plates Magma	Archaeologist Archaeology Artefact Barrow Cremate Flint Fortified Harpoon Monument Peat Prehistory Tribe	Surface Magnet Magnetic Air resistance Force meter Gravity Mass Mineral Newton Pivot Parachute, Streamline.
Year 4	Reservation Physical feature Landmark State Capital Civil right Climate	Acupuncture Condensation Freezing Matter Particle Sedate Anaesthetic	Amylase Bile Blood vessel Oesophagus Plaque Enamel Enzyme	Altitude Climate Collection Contour line Crust Hostile Magma	Britannia Conquer Defeat Elect Emperor Invade Rebellion	Adapt Camouflage Climate Conservation Coral Free diving Habitat

	Tribe President Native American Colony Indigenous	Evaporation Mandrake Melting Potion Vapour	Faeces Germ Hygiene Rectum Saliva	Mountain Peak Plateau Summit Tectonic plate	Republic Revolt Roman numerals Tribe Wattle and daub	Oceanography Organism Pressure Species submarine
Year 5	Archaeologist Afterlife Curse Hierarchy Hieroglyphics Mummification Pyramid Ritual Rosetta Stone Sphinx Tomb Vizier	Solar system Orbit Satellite Universe Rotate Atmosphere Sphere/spherical Planet Astronomer Star Gravity Axis	Iron ore Mine Industrialised Adolescence Reproduction Offspring Gestation period Revolutionise Quaker Manufacture Blast furnace Puberty	Air resistance Buoyancy Capacity Centripetal force Exert Gravity Mechanism Oscillate Pivot Prototype Pulley Roller coaster	Allotment Anther Arable Filament Fertiliser Germination Organic Pastoral Pollination Propagate Stamen Stigma	Annulment Christianity Church of England Divorce English Reformation Execution Monarch Reign Protestant Roman Catholicism Treason Tudor
Year 6	Propaganda Allies Axis Rationing Invade Nazi Civilian Treaty Evacuee Blitz Conflict Persecute	Expedition Explorer Glacier Arctic Antarctic Continent Atmosphere The Endurance Precipitation Commanded Conditions Exposure	Adaptation Ancestry Environment Extinct Fossil Inheritance Naturalist Natural selection Observation Species Variation	Industry Industrial revolution Reign Invention Population Poverty Affluent Slum Rural Urban Domestic Era Boarding school Pick pocket Social reformer Mill Workhouse	Abstract Art movement Canvas Collage Cubism Easel Fauvism Impressionism Pointillism Pop art Realism Surrealism	

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