

Common exception words – year 2

Pupils' attention should be drawn to the grapheme-phoneme correspondences that do and do not fit in with what has been taught so far.

door	floor	poor	because	find
kind	mind	behind	child	children
wild	climb	most	only	both
old	cold	gold	hold	told
every	everybody	even	great	break
steak	pretty	beautiful	after	fast
last	past	father	class	grass
pass	plant	path	bath	hour
move	prove	improve	sure	sugar
eye	could	should	would	who
whole	any	many	clothes	busy
people	water	again	half	money
Mr	Mrs	parents	Christmas	

correspond

immediate(ly)

recommend

Notes and guidance (non-statutory)

Teachers should continue to emphasise to pupils the relationships between sounds and letters, even when the relationships are unusual. Once root words are learnt in this way, longer words can be spelt correctly if the rules and guidance for adding prefixes and suffixes are also known. Many of the words in the list above can be used for practice in adding suffixes.

International Phonetic Alphabet (non-statutory)

The table below shows each symbol of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) and provides examples of the associated grapheme(s).¹ The table is not a comprehensive alphabetic code chart; it is intended simply as guidance for teachers in understanding the IPA symbols used in the spelling appendix ([English Appendix 1](#)). The pronunciations in the table are, by convention, based on Received Pronunciation and could be significantly different in other accents.

Consonants		Vowels	
/b/	bad	/ɑː/	father, arm
/d/	dog	/ɒ/	hot
/ð/	this	/æ/	cat
/dʒ/	gem, jug	/aɪ/	mind, fine, pie, high
/f/	if, puff, photo	/aʊ/	out, cow
/g/	gum	/ɛ/	hen, head
/h/	how	/eɪ/	say, came, bait
/j/	yes	/ɛə/	air
/k/	cat, check, key, school	/əʊ/	cold, boat, cone, blow
/l/	leg, hill	/ɪ/	hit
/m/	man	/ɪə/	beer
/n/	man	/iː/	she, bead, see, scheme, chief
/ŋ/	sing	/ɔː/	launch, raw, born
/θ/	both	/ɔɪ/	coin, boy
/p/	pet	/ʊ/	book
/r/	red	/ʊə/	tour
/s/	sit, miss, cell	/uː/	room, you, blue, brute
/ʃ/	she, chef	/ʌ/	cup
/t/	tea	/ɜː/	fern, turn, girl
/tʃ/	check	/ə/	farmer
/v/	vet		
/w/	wet, when		
/z/	zip, hens, buzz		
/ʒ/	pleasure		

¹ This chart is adapted slightly from the version provided on the DfE's website to support the Year 1 phonics screening check.