Common Exception Words

By the end of Year Two, it is a government expectation that children will be able to spell the Common Exception Words.

The common exception words are words that do not follow regular spelling rules but are common in our language:

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.

*'children' is not an exception to what has been taught so far but is included because of its relationship with 'child'.

Alongside the Common Exception Words (CEWs), children will have been taught the Harder to Read and Spell Words (HRSWs) from our phonics scheme which are also listed on our website.