

What is the 'Powerful Words' programme?



A 5-year vocabulary programme that you begin in Year 7, and finish in Year 11.



Delivered once a week during tutor time, across all the schools in our trust.



Aims to build your knowledge of 'academic' vocabulary and to develop your word decoding skills.



Half termly quiz to test you on the words you've learnt.



Powerful Words Champions Cup awarded each year for the school with the best quiz results in our trust.



Tray of doughnuts awarded each year to the tutor group with the best quiz results from each school.

What are the types of words we'll learn?



In 1987, Professor Isabel Beck and Dr Margaret McKeown came up with the idea of **grouping vocabulary** into **3 different tiers**.



Subject specific words that are usually taught by subject teachers e.g. your Maths teacher teaches you the word 'isosceles'.

Academic words that you encounter in lots of different subject classrooms - they help you explore and talk about complicated ideas from across a wide range of topics.

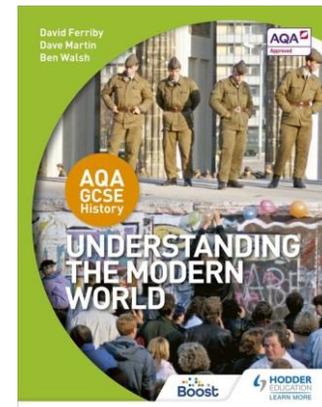
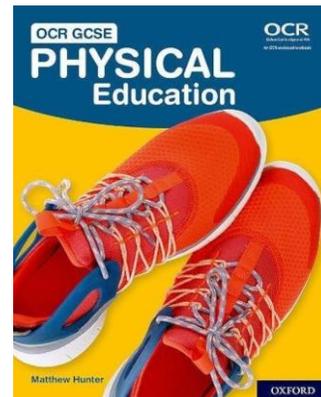
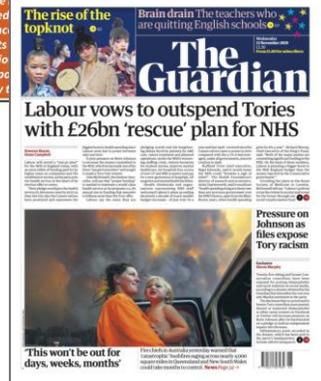
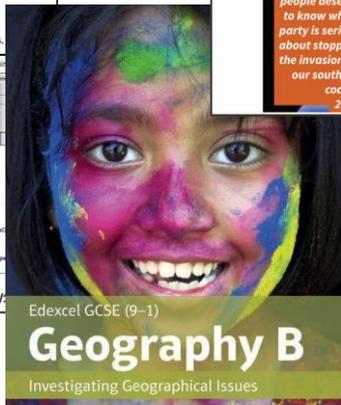
These are the **Powerful Words** we'll learn!

Simple words that you learn early on as a young child and are reinforced on a daily basis.

The words we teach on our 5-year Powerful Words programme come from a list of the **most common words found in academic texts** like textbooks and exam papers etc.

Wk.	Autumn Term			Spring Term			Summer Term		
1	Introduction to Powerful Words			assume	assess	<i>Keeping up with the Jones'</i>	period	policy	<i>Clutching at straws</i>
2	anthrop-	auto-	<i>Square meal</i>	Retrieval			Retrieval		
3	bio-	chron-	<i>Long shot</i>	benefit	concept	<i>In the limelight</i>	emerge	interpret	<i>Ivory tower</i>
4	dyna-	dys-	<i>Show your true colours</i>	consistent	contract	<i>Put a sock in it</i>	constitutional	function	<i>Sour grapes</i>
5	Retrieval			Retrieval			Retrieval		
6	-gram	-graph	<i>Don't look a gift horse in the mouth</i>	derive	distribute	<i>Ears are burning</i>	identify	data	<i>The real McCoy</i>
7	hyper-	hypo-	<i>Below the belt</i>						
<i>Half Term</i>									
1	comprehensive	advocate	<i>Pass the buck</i>	economic	factor	<i>Rest on one's laurels</i>	alter	major	<i>Red letter day</i>
2	Retrieval			Retrieval			Retrieval		
3	domestic	successive	<i>Lame duck</i>	function	income	<i>Lap of the gods</i>	occur	financial	<i>Lion's share</i>
4	amendment	eliminate	<i>Spin doctor</i>	indicate	export	<i>Blue blood</i>	contract	legislation	<i>In the doghouse</i>
5	marginal	paradigm	<i>Gone haywire</i>	Retrieval			percent	approach	<i>Pull out all the stops</i>
6	Retrieval			context	labour	<i>World is your oyster</i>	Retrieval		
7	prohibit	analysis	<i>Throw down the gauntlet</i>						

Beth Morrish, Director of Literacy - Meridian Trust



How will we learn the words?



We'll learn how to be **word-detectives** and use our knowledge of prefixes, suffixes, and Greek and Latin root words (this is called **morphology**) to help decode unfamiliar words.



anti-
de-
dys-
mis-
sub-



chrono
geo
audi
bene
circ



-logy
-ship
-ness
-ible
-esque

Logophile

someone who loves words

logo = words phile = love

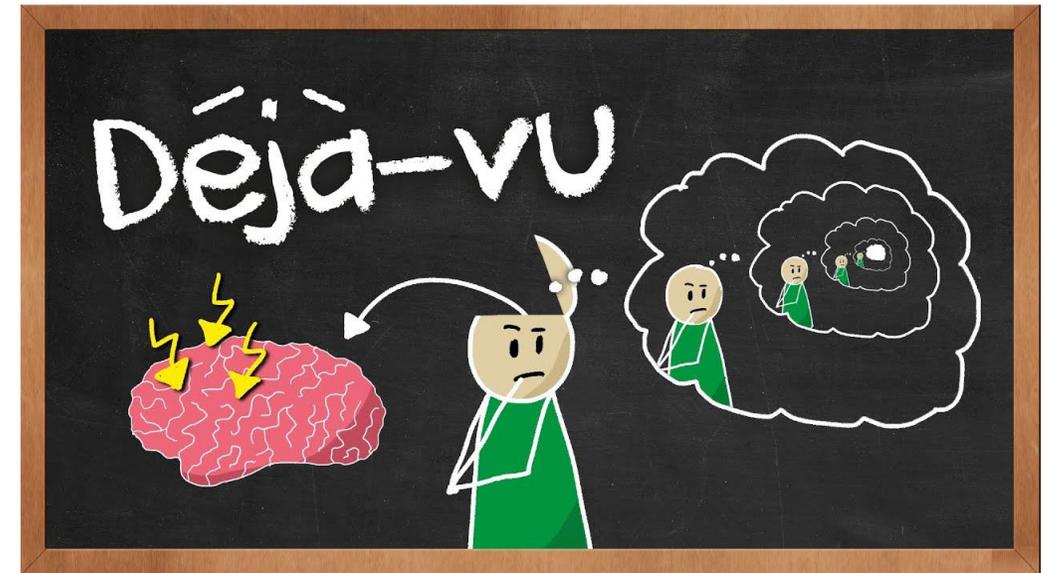
We'll also find out how certain words and phrases came into existence (this is called **etymology**), and use these stories as **memory hooks** to help us learn.



Cappuccino gets its name from the colour of the hooded habits worn by Capuchin Monks.

Will we *just* learn words?

In addition to academic words, we'll also teach you an '**enrichment**' **phrase** each week, such as an idiom*, or phrase from another language.



* An idiom is a phrase that isn't meant to be taken literally e.g. it's raining cats and dogs

...and if you're interested in learning even *more* words, then check out these brilliant books!

