

Red Words

At CTS, we recognise that some commonly used words in English contain unusual spelling patterns and cannot be decoded through blending (for example, *said* or *does*). These are often referred to as 'red words', 'tricky words', or high-frequency words.

As these words cannot always be sounded out, they need to be learned by sight. We recommend practising these regularly at home, for example through the use of flashcards or quick recall games.

The list below includes the red words that children are expected to be able to read confidently by the end of the phonics programme.

I	wall	two	walk	bought
of	some	could	for *	daughter
my *	there	would	have *	wear
to	so *	anyone	little *	oh
the	what	over *	when *	Mr
no *	they	does	sister *	Mrs
your	do	through	why *	I've
said	old *	once	down *	It's
you	was	here	know *	don't
he *	one	son	out *	asked
are	saw *	you're	look(ed) *	into
me *	watch	humans	very *	
go *	school *	whole	came *	
baby	small	should	about *	
paint *	by *	come	house *	
all	who	many	how *	
like *	tall	mother	now *	
want	brother	father	people	
call(ed)	I'm	water	talk	
we *	their	great	love	
be *	any	above	buy	
her *	fall	where	worse	
she *	were	someone	thought	
washing	other	another	caught	

* = 'Red for a While' Words (once grapheme is taught they become green words)