Word list - years 3 and 4

| accident(ally) | early | knowledge | purpose |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| actual(ly) | earth | learn | quarter |
| address | eight/eighth | length | question |
| answer | enough | library | recent |
| appear | exercise | material | regular |
| arrive | experience | medicine | reign |
| believe | experiment | mention | remember |
| bicycle | extreme | minute | sentence |
| breath | famous | natural | separate |
| breathe | favourite | naughty | special |
| build | February | notice | straight |
| busy/business | forward(s) | occasion(ally) | strange |
| calendar | fruit | often | strength |
| caught | grammar | opposite | suppose |
| centre | group | ordinary | surprise |
| century | guard | particular | therefore |
| certain | guide | peculiar | though/althoug |
| circle | heard | perhaps | h |
| complete | heart | popular | thought |
| consider | height | position | through |
| continue | history | possess(ion) | various |
| decide | imagine | possible | weight |
| describe | increase | potatoes | woman/women |
| different | important | pressure |  |
| difficult | interest | probably |  |
| disappear | island | promise |  |

## 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.

## Examples:

business: once busy is learnt, with due attention to the unusual spelling of the /i/ sound as ' $u$ ', business can then be spelt as busy + ness, with the $\mathbf{y}$ of busy changed to $\mathbf{i}$ according to the rule.
disappear: the root word appear contains sounds which can be spelt in more than one way so it needs to be learnt, but the prefix dis- is then simply added to appear.

Understanding the relationships between words can also help with spelling. Examples:

- bicycle is cycle (from the Greek for wheel) with bi- (meaning 'two') before it.
- medicine is related to medical so the /s/ sound is spelt as c.
- opposite is related to oppose, so the schwa sound in opposite is spelt as $\mathbf{0}$.

