

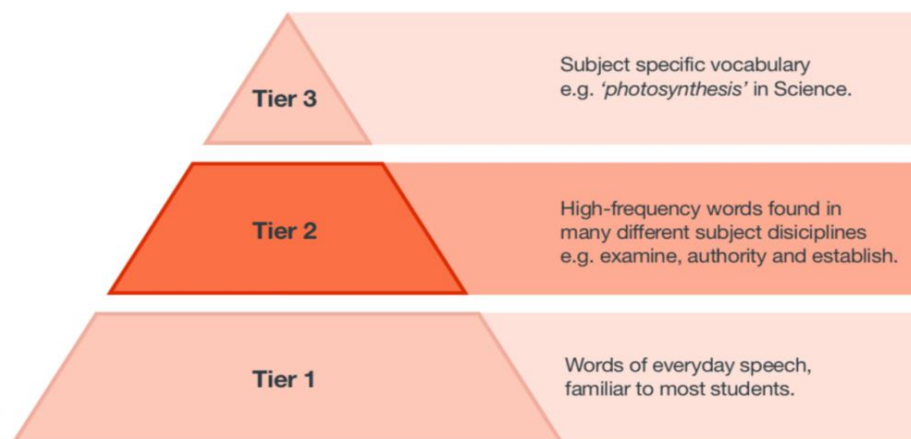
## Developing Vocabulary Parents Guide



Teaching vocabulary is an essential part of the teaching and learning process. Developing pupils' vocabulary will support their reading, writing, speaking and listening skills; it will also help them access all subjects across the National Curriculum.

### Information on the three tiers in vocabulary

There are three different levels(tiers) of words that pupils learn at different stages of their language development.



Tier 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyday words that have only one meaning.</li> <li>• Mostly found in early reading books.</li> <li>• <b>Examples: table, happy, baby, clock, dog, orange etc.</b></li> </ul>
Tier 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Known as 'academic' vocabulary.</li> <li>• Cross-curricular words used across all subjects.</li> <li>• Often have different meanings (synonyms), e.g. consumer-someone who buys goods or an animal that eats something else.</li> <li>• <b>Examples of Tier 2 words: complex, analyse, contract, foundation, fortunate, delighted, patient etc.</b></li> </ul>
Tier 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject specific vocabulary.</li> <li>• <b>Examples of tier three words: molecule, tundra, photosynthesis, isosceles etc.</b></li> </ul>

In Kensington Avenue Primary School, we actively focus on developing vocabulary across all curriculum areas.

**At school, we support developing vocabulary by:**

- Discussing, modelling and explaining new language in all curricular subjects.
- Providing word banks to improve language-rich vocabulary in writing.
- Using dictionaries to check the meaning of unknown words within context.
- Using thesauruses to expand their word bank.
- Displaying vocabulary in the classroom to be used in lessons.

**Strategies for developing vocabulary at home**

Exploring new words regularly is one of the best ways parents can support learning at home. Here are some ways you can help your child.

- Highlight new words when you are reading or listening to your child.
- Encourage your child to discuss unknown words. (Hint: Don't just skip them).
- Link words to real-life experiences; make them meaningful.
- Read a wide variety of texts such as fiction, non-fiction, adventure and poetry.
- Encourage your child to learn and explain the meaning of their weekly spelling words.
- 'Knowledge Organisers' are sent home before a new topic starts which include the key words with a glossary. Discuss this with your child to help them get a better understanding of the topic.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak to the class teacher.

**Useful link:** <https://www.missdecarbo.com/the-three-tiers-of-vocabulary/>