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Review Date	June 2027



Agreed by: Learning and Achievement Committee Date: January 2025

Name: Stephen Skeet Signature: Signed electronically on Gov Hub

Communication and Language with Vocabulary Bank – June 2024

Overview

Children learn best from high quality interactions with attuned adults.







Highfield aims to provide a language rich environment for children to thrive. This starts in our 2-year-old room where practitioners play partner the children and begin the 'back-and-forth interactions from an early age' which 'form the foundations for language and cognitive development.' (Development Matters 2020)

An interaction at an early stage in a child's language development may be copying sounds and adding sing-song tunes to engage the child. Rhyme, rhythm and music are key ingredients of the day-to-day fabric of Highfield. It helps us to ignite love of the spoken word.

Books, both fiction and non-fiction are shared constantly throughout the day. This may be as a group, a whole class or on a one-to-one. When adults read their intonation may seem 'over-exaggerated,' but the extra intonation or change in pitch or volume is necessary to engage young children and keep their attention.

Adults are always listening and responding to children. They will be commenting on what they are doing, echoing back their thoughts and ideas and extending them by adding new vocabulary or language structures. For example, a child that starts a sentence with "me" as a pronoun would not be corrected, just as a child with a stammer would be given time to express what s/he wanted to say. From this, the child will begin to express their own ideas, making links to their own experiences.

Attuned adults respond and question children sensitively through sustained shared thinking in their shared play experiences. For example, an "I wonder why?" question, in a play context, is far less direct and intimidating for a shy child and implies a shared need for answers.

Our expectations for communication and language development are generalised into our 'Curricular Goal waypoints.' For example, that children can follow a 2-part instruction and understand a 'why' question. These are used to assess if a child is falling behind in their development, so that prompt interventions can be put in place.

If any child is struggling with their language development and unable to express their feelings, the adult will help by trying to describe how they might be feeling. This is supported with visuals.

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Specific language intervention is given for children that need it. ELKLAN trained practitioners work with the child, and the family, via zoom or face to face sessions. The focus is either on specific speech sounds or language understanding. Often it is targets set by a Speech and Language Therapist. We also work closely with health visitors, who may have highlighted a developmental delay in a child and asked us to enhance a child's language development.

Children with English as an additional language share their language with their peers. For example, in greetings. They are offered a 1-1 weekly session with a practitioner to support their language development.

Home loans (books, games or puzzles) are used with all children in the setting to further enrich their experiences of language through story.

Our vocabulary bank is designed to show the depth and breadth of language children are exposed to during their time at Highfield but our skilled practitioners are not limited by this list. Practitioners follow children's lead and develop back and forth conversations and well as the explicit, taught vocabulary list, to the rhythm of the year, seasons and our Story Curriculum.

Objects (nouns)

Animals

Farm

Pig, cow, sheep, duck, horse, chicken, hen, cockerel, goat, goose, frog, chick, duckling, bill, beak, webbed

Farm animal sounds

Wild

Lion, tiger, leopard, elephant, zebra, monkey, bear, polar bear, penguin, snake, camel, hippopotamus (hippo), chimpanzee, gorilla, rhinoceros (rhino)

Wild animal sounds

Pets

Dog, cat, rabbit, hamster, guinea pig, mouse, rat, fish, bird, tortoise, turtle, snake

Pet sounds

Woodland and park

Fox, badger, owl, squirrel, rabbit, deer, mole

Mini-beast

Fire bug, spider, ladybird, worm, ant, beetle, earwig, stag beetle, bumble bee, honey bee, wasp, caterpillar, butterfly, dragonfly, moth, snail, slug, centipede

Under the sea

Shark, dolphin, seal, sealion, octopus, jellyfish, crab, starfish, turtle

People

Man, lady, woman, boy, girl, baby, auntie, uncle, mummy, daddy, brother, sister, grandma, nanny, grandad, cousin

Teacher, Police Officer, Firefighter, Paramedic, doctor, nurse, dentist, postman/postlady, vet, shop assistant, mechanic, builder

Body parts

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Body, head, hair, arm, leg, hand, foot, tummy, back, bottom, knee, elbow, fingers, toes, face, eyes, ears, nose, mouth, teeth, tongue, chin, eyebrows

Clothes

Pants, socks, tights, vest, nappy, t-shirt, trousers, skirt, dress, shorts, jumper, cardigan, sweatshirt, leggings, jacket, coat, wellies, boots, shoes, trainers, sandals, woolly hat, sun hat, cap, scarf, gloves, mittens, pyjamas, slippers

Food

Fruit, vegetables, meat, fish, breakfast, lunch, dinner, tea, supper, snack, drink

Apple, orange, banana, grapes, clementine, satsuma, pear, pineapple, mango, watermelon, strawberry, plum, blueberry, kiwi

Cucumber, onion, tomato, lettuce, pepper, sweetcorn, radish

Potato, carrot, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, green beans, runner beans, broad beans, garlic, pumpkin, mushroom, sprout, parsnip, beetroot, turnip

Milk, water, cheese, butter, bread, eggs, yoghurt

Cereal, toast, crumpet, muffin, pizza, potato wedges, mashed potato, fish pie, salmon, chicken, mince, sandwich, cake, biscuit, ice cream, chocolate, crisps

Everyday objects/places

House, flat, living room, lounge, kitchen, bathroom, bedroom, hall, garage, conservatory, garden

Table, chair, sofa, armchair, television, window, wall, cupboard, oven, fridge, freezer, bath, shower, sink, taps, mirror, bed, wardrobe, drawers, bookcase, books, rug, light, door, telephone, toys, stairs, plant, flower, sunflower, hyacinth, grass, tree, gate

Plate, bowl, knife, fork, spoon, cup, glass, saucepan, frying pan

Nursery/toys

Apron, paintbrush, paint, playdough, clay, scissors, glue, pencil, crayon, pen, paper, Sellotape, ruler, chalk

Ball, bat, teddy, doll, train, carriage, car, farm, zoo, blocks, sand, water, bubbles, bucket, spade, bike, scooter, slide, climbing frame, jigsaw, tea set, dolls house, garage, castle, pirate, animal, dinosaur, book

Musical instruments: drum, beater, tambourine, bells, shaker, maraca, xylophone, glockenspiel

In the street

Building, house, shop, library, post office, fruit shop, baker, café, tree, road, traffic lights, crossing, pavement, lamppost, post box, bus stop, road sign

Vehicles

Car, truck, lorry, van, train, bus, bicycle, motorbike, aeroplane, helicopter, boat, taxi, digger, ambulance, police car, fine engine, wheels, tyre, wings

Action words (verbs)

Sit, stand, run, jump, walk, climb, hop, skip, dance, kick, watch, look, listen, wait, play, build, talk, read, write, draw, paint, stick, cut, ride, turn, cook, wash, dry, eat, drink, lick, bite, chew, catch, throw, push, pull, reach, bang, hit, saw, drill, measure, broke, fix, mend, sweep, tidy, carry, drop, fall, swim, splash, trickle, drip, float, sink, sunk, move, open,

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close, sleep, wake, kiss, cuddle, hug, love, sneeze, smile, laugh, cry, help put on, take off, dress, brush, comb, stop, go, point, lift, blow, gone, pour, stir, mix, scoop, pat, tap, shake, squash, squeeze, roll, zip, slide, roll, swing, go, through

Feelings

Happy, sad, upset, scared, worried, angry, cross, tired, excited, surprised, shy, sorry, proud, brave, strong

Location words (prepositions)

In, on top, under, up, down, off, out, over, next to, beside, in front, behind, below, above, inside, outside, between, through, around, there, here, forwards, backwards

Social words

Hello, goodbye, please, thank you, yes, no, sorry, okay

Pronouns

I, it, my, me, you, your, she, he, we, they, us, hers, his, them, her, him, it's, our, myself, yourself, ours, their, theirs

Describing words (adjectives)

quiet, loud, clean, dirty, tidy, messy, wet, dry, damp, hot, cold, warm, cool, dark, light, shady, fast, slow, broken, fixed soft, hard, rough, smooth, shiny, prickly, spiky, knobbly, wobbly, sparkly, furry, hairy, lumpy, bumpy, slippery Crunchy, juicy, zingy, creamy, ripe, sweet, sour, salty, spicy, fizzy, grainy, sludgy, slimy, squidgy, mucky, sticky, sloppy, squelchy disgusting, smelly, scary, pretty, beautiful, amazing, funny, kind, unkind

Colours: red, orange, yellow, green, blue, purple, pink, black, white, grey

Size: big, bigger, biggest, small, smaller, smallest, tall, taller, tallest, short, shorter, shortest, long, longer, longest, thin, thinner, thinnest, thick, thicker, thickest, deep, shallow, wide, narrow, large, enormous, gigantic, huge, massive, teeny, tiny, little, mini, teeny-weeny

Shape: circle, square, triangle, rectangle, oblong, cube, sphere, cone, cylinder, pyramid, diamond, heart, star, round, flat, curved, straight

Weight: heavy, heavier, heaviest, light, lighter, lightest

Capacity/ Quantity: full, empty, too much, not enough, more, less, lots, up to the top, all gone

Number: zero, one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten

Pattern: straight line, cross, zig zag, pattern, wiggly line, criss cross, wavy, swirly, spiral, spotty, stripy

Seasons/Weather

Autumn

September, October, November, tree, leaves, falling, change, brown, golden, orange, red, yellow, crunch, foggy, cold, chilly, damp, harvest, pumpkin, apple, conker, acorn, squirrel, scarecrow

Winter

December, January, February, frosty, crisp, freezing, ice, snow, hail, white, frozen, slippery, slushy, shiver, Jack Frost, snowflake, snowball, snowman, icicle, glistening, dark, melt, toasty, cosy, fire

Spring

March, April, May, windy, breeze, blossom, leaves, green, grass, grow, seeds, nest, plant, flowers, daffodil, baby animal, bird, egg, chick, duckling, hatch, tadpole, frog, warm, sun, rain, shower, umbrella, puddle, rainbow

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Summer

June, July, August, hot, heat, sweating, sun, sunshine, holiday, swim, beach, seaside, sandcastle, shell, shade, sun lotion, ice-cream, ice-lolly, thunder, lightning, fan, pool, paddle, picnic

Special Times/Celebrations

Bonfire Night

bonfire, flames, hot, fireworks, Guy Fawkes, November 5th, colours, rocket, bang, flash, whoosh, zoom, whizz, shimmer, fizz, sparkler, explode, flicker, display, wow, dark, light, dangerous, safe

Diwali Hindu, Hindi, diva lamp, gifts, New year, Festival of Lights, fireworks, Rama, Sita, mehndi, rangoli pattern, bindi, India

Christmas

Christmas tree, bauble, tinsel, lights, fairy, angel, decorations, star, candle, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, stocking, wrapping paper, bow, ribbon, toys, present, card, Father Christmas, Santa, Jolly, North Pole, sleigh, bells, elf, reindeer, Rudolph, chimney, fireplace, mince pie, cracker, turkey, pudding, advent calendar Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, donkey, three kings, shepherd, stable, manger, Christian, church. Happy New Year

Chinese New Year

dragon, dog, pig, rat, rooster, rabbit, snake, sheep, horse, tiger, monkey, ox, lantern, red, envelope, money, firecracker, fortune cookie, chop sticks, good luck, festival, lunar, dance

Valentines Day

valentine, love, heart, special, card, envelope, gift

Pancake Day

pancake, milk, flour, eggs, sugar, lemon, frying pan, mix, toss, cook, bowl, spoon, whisk

Mothers Day / Fathers Day

Mother, Mommy, mom, Nanny, Grandma, Father, Daddy, Dad, Grandad, love, special, hug, care, kind, look after, help, present, card, flowers

Easter

Easter eggs, bunny, rabbit, chocolate, Easter basket, hunt, chick, Spring, flowers, hot cross buns, cross, new life

Birthday

cake, candle, present, card, wrapping paper, bow, ribbon, party, invitation, Happy Birthday, celebrate, family, special clothes

Wedding

bride, groom, wedding, marriage, celebrate, church, bells, flowers, bouquet, party, invitation, family, guest, best man, bridesmaid, pageboy, cake, confetti, ring, special clothes, hymn

Christening

baby, church, font, parents, family, vicar, priest, cake, gift, special clothes, hymn

Book Vocabulary

book, cover, title, author, page, writing, pictures, characters, setting, problem, solution, beginning, middle, end

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^{*}Subject specific vocabulary will also be found in each subject document for the seven areas of learning

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Butterflies Story Curriculum

Autumn Term

3 Little Pigs



Owl Babies



Number language: first, second, third, two, three, four. Descriptive language: solid, strong, thick, quick, firm, salty. Materials: straw, sticks, bricks Verbs: ran, huff, puff, blow, shake.

Owls, mummy Materials: twigs, leaves, owl feathers. Size: big, small. Descriptive language: dark, nice, soft, silent. Verbs: swooped, flapped, danced, bounced, moved.

Whatever Next



The Gingerbread Man



Objects: moon, rocket, helmet, boots, teddy, aeroplane, clouds, bath. Positional language: under, up, above, down Animals: bear,

Food: gingerbread, flour, butter, molasses, sugar, eggs, currants, icing. Size: little, tiny. Descriptive language: old, cheeky, delicious, burst, hot, dashing, disappeared, lightning, soggy, damp, wet, dry. Verbs: run, fast, leapt, pecking, rushing, vaulted, walk, barked, grazing, slow, swim, quickly, jump. Animals: chicken, dog, cow, horse, fox.

Spring Term

All go traveling by



Jack and the Beanstalk



The Hungry Caterpillar



Colours: yellow, red, blue, pink, green, white, orange, purple, silver.

Sounds: beep-beep, rumble-rumble, chuff-chuff, ringring, Chug-a-lug, nee-oww, vroom-vroom, tap-tap, dinga-ling.

Vehicles: bus, truck, train, bike, boat, plane, car. Descriptive language: bright, shiny, fast, loud.

Size: long, little, big.

Number: 1,2,3,4,5 golden eggs, 1,2,3,4,5 magic beans. Colours: red beans, green beanstalk, orange chicken, golden coins, golden harp. Size: big, small, gigantic.

Fruits: apple, pear, plum, strawberry, orange.

Colours: green, red, blue, yellow, orange,

Days of the week: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday.

Size: tiny, little, big, fat, small. Numbers: one, two, three, four, five.

Summer Term

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Animal Boogie



Animals: bear, monkey, elephant, bird, leopard, snake. Repetition: shake shake, boogie woogie oogie.

Colours: black, orange, purple, blue, pink, white, yellow, red

Rhyming: dare & there & bear, sees & trees, heat & feet, high & sky, deep & leap, around & ground, bright & night & right.

Verbs/action words: shake, swing, stomp, flap, fly, leap, slither, sway, boggie.

Dear Zoo



Descriptive language: heavy, open.

Animals: elephant, monkey, lion, camel, snake, frog, giraffe, puppy.

Size: bigg, tall.

Emotions: feirce, grumpy, scary.

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Dragonflies and Bumblebees Story Curriculum

Money Puzzle 3 Little Pigs







Peter Rabbit

monkey butterfly elephant snake spider parrot frog caterpillar family baby mother father rainforest jungle treetops canopy layers emergent layer understorey forest floor camouflage

lost scared frightened afraid alone

Comparative language – big bigger biggest

Elephant – grey trunk tusk ivory bull calf

Snake – slither hiss eggs coil fang venom bite

Spider – black hairy web trap legs Parrot – beak squawk claws feathers

Frog – green croak slimy Bat - nocturnal blind oxygen species plants insects sunlight vines shrubs trees groom primate swing tail troop logging deforestation habitat hot humid rainfall climate dark warm wet Amazon tropical Equator South America Rainforest animals – jaguar slot gorilla

orangutan anaconda macaw toucan eagle

chimpanzee leopard tree frog anteater

lemur

Traditional tale

characters setting beginning middle end Once upon a time

wolf scary cruel greedy hair chin huff puff huffed puffed blow gobble up knock

straw sticks bricks materials bundle build

Scared frightened run away brave courageous clever

Properties of materials - strong weak hard soft waterproof protected glass wood

roof chimney house door pot fire Ordinal numbers - first second third

Peter Rabbit

rabbit buck doe kit hop burrow warren

'binky'

adventurous bold brave daring playful mischievous naughty

wander

path

vegetables lettuces radishes parsley beetroot cabbage beans peas blackcurrants gooseberries blackberries onions cucumber potatoes carrots garden gate scarecrow jacket wateringcan rake sieve shoes hoe squeezed under

sneezed

frightened scared out of breath toolshed tools wheelbarrow blackbirds sparrow mouse

Peter Rabbit Benjamin Bunny **Flopsy** Mopsy Cottontail Squirrell Nutkin

Mrs Tiggy-Winkle Mr McGregor

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Rama and Sita

Whatever Next

The Nativity







Diwali India belief November 5 days Hindu festival celebration holiday customs traditions

diva lamp diya clay lamp oil lamps light and dark

decorate

gifts Lakshmi goddess wealth prosperity

New Year Festival of Lights gifts presents lights

fireworks

firewo Rama

Sita

mehndi

rangoli patterns

parade

music

Temple pray mandir

decorate homes prepare cleaning homes new clothes

Holi

Rama Sita princess goodness light forest stepmother darkness evil Ravana 10 heads palace Hanuman (Monkey King) arrow battle bear Mrs Bear rocket chimney cupboard helmet colander owl space boots clouds rain moon aeroplane passengers asleep journey trip voyage whoosh bang zoom

countdown planet - Mercury Venus Mars
Jupiter Saturn Uranus Neptune Pluto- comet
galaxy moon stars constellation universe
solar system Earth gravity Sun orbit Milky
Way asteroid meteor crater eclipse
astronaut space ship launch rocket satellite
telescope space station UFO alien
Moon landing Apollo 11 Neil Armstrong Buzz
Aldrin Michael Collins lift off blast off
capsule moon buggy NASA space shuttle
bump tired exhausted bath time asleep

Christmas December 25th Christmas Eve Christmas Day Boxing Day celebration festival holiday merry happy Jesus Mary Joseph birth Nativity Bethlehem 3 Wise Men shepherds Angel Gabriel angels star camel donkey ox sheep manger gifts-gold frankincense myrrh stable innkeeper

Father Christmas Santa Claus reindeer Rudolph sleigh Santa's workshop jingle bells sleigh bells North Pole elves Santa's helpers deliver red beard jolly chimney

Christmas tree stocking presents decorations candles baubles fairy lights tinsel bell Christmas cards wrapping paper deliver wreath holly mistletoe Advent advent calendar traditions customs family meal crackers turkey sausages brussels sprouts Christmas pudding party hats Christmas cake Christmas pudding mince pies gingerbread house

Christingle church carols carol singing Christmas jumper

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Goldilocks



The Great Race



Emperors Egg



Traditional tale
Once upon a time
beginning middle end
cottage forest woods
daddy bear mummy bear baby bear

character
big huge large middle-sized medium-sized
little small tiny
eating sitting sleeping
porridge bowl spoon chair bed
empty full hard soft
brave bold curious
broken mend fix

scared frightened alarmed run away growl scream

scream
Language of why and because

obedient disobedient respect/disrespect risk-taking/safety

right/wrong being naughty/being good

breaking in stealing

Mathematical language – one two three how many?
Language of size

Comparative language-big middle-sized little

Chinese Zodiac, Lunar New Year, Jade Emperor, race, cat, rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, horse, snake, goat, monkey, rooster, dog, pig, first, second, third, forth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twelfth Emperor Penguin female male chick species South Pole Antarctica Southern Hemisphere
World Earth sphere environment landscape temperature thermometer minus/negative numbers thaw freeze solid frozen liquid defrost ice snow waddle balance slide huddle adaption camouflage shiny, waterproof feathers sleek streamlined

rookery regurgitate 'crop' predators habitat global warming endangered

Mathematical language – high highest height tall taller tallest short shorter shortest small smaller smallest wide wider widest width deep deeper deepest depth

Comparative language – longer than shorter than estimate

I wonder.....why? Because.....

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10 Ways to look after the world



Drop



Going on an Egg Hunt



Environment, recycle, reuse, reduce, planet earth, the world, litter, electricity, green hand, help, Greta Thunberg, Climate Change, junk modelling, walk, plant, seed, grow, wildlife, compost, plastic, cardboard, bins, recycling centre, water, taps, food, bird feeders, energy, lightbulb, survive,

Drop, Planet Earth, , billion, luxury, ocean, currents, energy, floats, droplets, clouds, sparks, rain, sprinkling, drizzling, pouring, ice-ball, hail, stream, cliff, lake, river, freeze, glacier, icebergs, forest, soil, roots, stems, leaf, nectar

Egg, hunt, look, find, search, over, under, around, ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, all, excited, lamb, baaa, chicks, cheep, bees, buzz, Easter, ducks, quack, wolf

Jack and the Beanstalk



9 Ducks 9



Handa's Hen



Fe Fi, Fo, Fum, tall, big, giant, small, enormous, castle, gigantic, humungous, beanstalk, magic, cow, harp, golden egg, 5 beans, old man, mother, son, giant's wife, axe, chop, dead, thud, once upon a time and happily ever after, the end.

Nine line, eight gate, seven, six, tricks, five, dive, four, shore, three tree, two to do, one, sun, duck, rickety, bridge, I'm hungry, fox, den, chased, speech bubble, dive, crept, pounced, splash

Handa, Mondi, 1-10, grandma, black, Akeyo, fluttery, butterfly, hiding, searched, peered, under, behind, stripy, pattern, lizard, peeped, little, beautiful, wavy, grass, jumping, long, baby, footprints, swallowed, eaten, sad, scurried, hurried, skipped, chicks, brown, white, yellow, orange, hen, butterfly, mice, lizard, sunbird, cricket, bullfrog, spoonbills, starlings, chicks

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Hungry Caterpillar



Handa's Surprise



Somebody Crunched Colin



Leaf, egg, moon, tiny, sun, pop, lay, warm, ate, food, apple, pear, orange, plum, strawberries, pickle, salami, sausage, cherry pie, lolly pop, chocolate cake, swiss cheese, ice cream, watermelon, cup cake, stomach ache, juicy, green leaf, great big, enormous, cocoon/chrysalis, nibbled, hungry, caterpillar, small, built, inside, outside, two weeks, beautiful butterfly, days of the week Monday, Tuesday, wed etc, one, night, day

Handa, Akeyo, passion fruit, guava, tangerine, mango, banana, pineapple, avocado, giraffe, goat, elephant, monkey, ostrich, zebra, antelope, surprise, juicy, basket, balance, Africa, Kenya, soft, delicious, ripe, round, sweet, culture, spiky Crunched, scrunched, alluring, belong, bandit, sneaky, crawled, shadows, crackle, wrinkled, crinkled, inquisitive, flavoursome, grizzly, munch, whirled, swirled, slippery, soggy, crumpled, glinted, flickered, fluttered, watering can

- *We recognise cultural and religious differences and we will acknowledge this in the language we use when talking about food items, clothing, special times and celebrations. We also know that dates change for religious celebrations each year, so the order of books may change to reflect this.
- ** This vocabulary bank does not contain an exhaustive list of words. Staff will use professional knowledge and experience to introduce new vocabulary as and when appropriate to each individual child. The bank will be updated or amended when necessary.