What is a Common Exception Word?

Common exception words are words for which the Grapheme Phoneme Correspondence (GPC) is rare or unique. There are a number of words that children are expected to know that contain GPCs which have not been taught at this age because they are unusual. These are sometimes also called 'Red' words or 'Tricky' words, depending on the teaching programme being used.

| Year Group Taught | Family Number | Family words |
|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| EARLY YEARS | 1 | a, I, the |
| | 2 | they, by, my |
| | 3 | be, he, me, she, we |
| | 4 | do, to, today, no, go, so |
| | 5 | is, his, has, was, busy |
| | 6 | here, there, where, are, were |
| YEAR 1 | 7 | put, push, pull, full |
| | 8 | love, come, some, once, money |
| | 9 | friend, said, says, again |
| | 10 | house, our, you, your |
| | 11 | of, eye, even, school, water |
| | 12 | door, floor, poor |
| | 13 | find, kind, mind, behind |
| | 14 | child, children, wild, climb |
| | 15 | old, cold, gold, hold, told |
| | 16 | great, break, steak |
| YEAR 2 | 17 | path, bath, father |
| | 18 | fast, last, past, ask |
| | 19 | class, grass, pass |
| | 20 | sure, sugar, who, whole, hour |
| | 21 | could, should, would |
| | 22 | most, only, both, clothes |
| | 23 | people, Mr, Mrs, parents |
| | 24 | any, many, every, everybody |
| | 25 | after, half, plant |
| | 26 | pretty, beautiful, because, Christmas |