Kit’s Corner Shop Database Challenge

1. Field names: Price, Stock Level, Category. (2 marks)

Working: The word bank provided 'Price', 'Stock Level', and 'Category' as the missing fields to describe the items.

Award 1 mark for each correct field identified from the word bank (any two).

2. Price: £1.20 | Stock Level: 15 (2 marks)

Working: Matching the values from the word bank to the corresponding data categories.

Award 1 mark for each correct placement.

3. A unique ID number ensures that even if two products have the same name (e.g., two types of bread), the computer can tell them apart. (2 marks)

Look for: The concept of uniqueness or preventing confusion between similar items.

Good: It helps Mo find the right item quickly.

Better: It is important because it makes sure every item has its own specific code so they don't get mixed up.

Best: A unique ID is essential because it prevents errors if two different products share a name, ensuring the database can accurately track each specific item.

What moves an answer up: Moving from a vague benefit to a specific technical reason regarding data integrity.

4. The 'Stock Level' field needs to be updated. The new value will be 12. (2 marks)

Working: 15 (original stock) - 3 (sold) = 12.

Award 1 mark for identifying the field and 1 mark for the correct calculation.

5. A digital database is better because it is easier to search, it can be backed up so data isn't lost, and it updates calculations automatically. (2 marks)

Look for: Mentioning efficiency, searchability, or data safety.

Good: It is better because you can't lose it as easily as paper.

Better: It is better because it is faster to search for items and you can update the numbers without needing an eraser.

Best: A digital database is more efficient because it allows for instant searching, automatic calculations, and secure backups, which prevents the risk of losing important shop records.

What moves an answer up: Moving from simple durability to functional advantages like automation and search speed.

What a secure answer looks like

A secure answer demonstrates an understanding that fields are categories and records are specific data points. Students should recognise that databases allow for efficient data management compared to manual methods.

If your child is stuck

Ask the child to imagine they are looking for a specific book in a library; how would they find it if the list was just a messy pile of paper? Explain that a database is just a very organised list.

Common mistakes to watch for

Students often confuse 'fields' (the column headers) with 'records' (the actual data rows). Remind them that fields are the labels, and records are the specific items.