RE Knowledge Building Blocks - Years 3 and 4

The Understanding Christianity scheme, uses carefully planned progressive steps to teach children key concepts. Throughout the school, these concepts are taught using 3 key steps.

MAKing SENSE of the text

Developing skills of reading and interpretation; understanding how Christians interpret, handle and use biblical texts; making sense of the meanings of texts for Christians.

Making Connections

Evaluating, reflecting on and connecting the texts and concepts studied, and discerning possible connections between these and pupils' own lives and ways of understanding the world.

Understanding the Impact

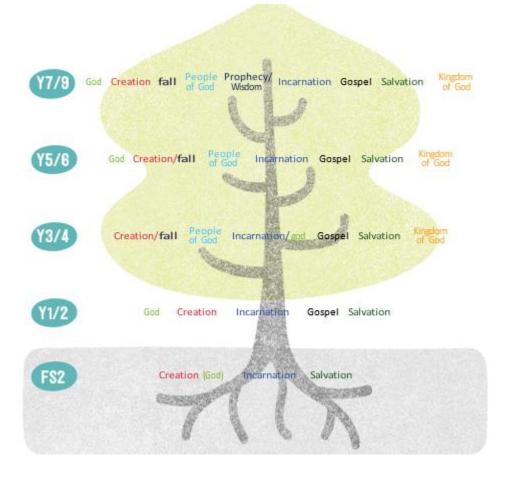
Examining ways in which Christians respond to biblical texts and teachings, and how they put their beliefs into action in diverse ways within the Christian community and in the world.

The scheme uses 8 core concepts, which go through the 'Bog Story' of the Bible. Not all concepts are taught to each age phase but as the children's knowledge grows and develops, more concepts are taught. Concepts are taught with an over-arching 'key question' for the entire unit and concepts are re-visited regularly and explored in more depth each time allowing links and connections to be made between concepts during units.

V	GOD	Fundamental to Christian belief is the existence of God, Father Son and Holy Spirit.
	CREATION	The universe and human life are God's good creation. Humans are made in the image of God.
	FALL	Humans have a tendency to go their own way rather than keep their place in relation to their Creator. This attitude is called sin, and Genesis 3 gives an account of this rebellion, popularly called 'the Fall'. This describes a catastrophic separation between God and humans, between humans and each other, and between humans and the environment. This idea that humans are 'fallen' and in need of rescue (or salvation) sets out the root cause of many problems for humanity.
500	PEOPLE OF GOD	The Old Testament tells the story of God's plan to reverse the impact of the Fall, to save humanity. It involves choosing a people who will model a restored relationship with God, who will attract all other people back to God. The Bible narrative includes the ups and downs of this plan, including the message of the prophets, who tried to persuade people to stick with God. The plan appears to end in failure, with the people of God exiled and then returning, awaiting a 'messiah'— a rescuer.

T	INCARNATION	The New Testament presents Jesus as the answer — the Messiah and Saviour, who will repair the effects of sin and the Fall and offer a way for humans to be at one with God again. Incarnation means that Jesus is God in the flesh, and that, in Jesus, God came to live among humans.
	GOSPEL	Jesus' incarnation is 'good news' for all people. ('Gospel' means 'good news'.) His life, teaching and ministry embody what it is like to be one of the people of God, what it means to live in relationship with God. Jesus' example and teaching emphasise loving one's neighbour — particularly the weak and vulnerable — as part of loving God.
0	SALVATION	Jesus' death and resurrection effect the rescue or salvation of humans. He opens the way back to God. Through Jesus, sin is dealt with, forgiveness offered, and the relationship between God and humans is restored.
	KINGDOM OF GOD	This does not mean that no one sins any more! The Bible talks in terms of God's 'Kingdom' having begun in human hearts through Jesus. The idea of the 'Kingdom of God' reflects God's ideal for human life in the world — a vision of life lived in the way God intended for human beings. Christians look forward to a time when God's rule is fulfilled at some future point, in a restored, transformed heaven and earth. Meanwhile, they seek to live this attractive life as in God's Kingdom, following Jesus' example, inspired and empowered by God's Spirit.

Plan of key concept delivery:



Key knowledge children will learn in Years 3 and 4

God:

End KS1 (7)	End lower KS2 (9)
Pupils will know that:	
 Christians believe in God, and that they find out about God in the Bible. 	
 Christians believe God is loving, kind, fair, and also Lord and King; and there are some stories that show this. 	(See Incarnation)
 Christians worship God and try to live in ways that please him. 	

Creation and Fall:

End KS1 (7)	End lower KS2 (9)
Pupils will know that Christians believe:	Pupils will know that Christians believe:
God created the universe.	 God the Creator cares for the creation, including human beings.
 The Earth and everything in it are important to God. 	As human beings are part of God's good creation, they do best when they listen to God.
God has a unique relationship with human beings as their Creator and Sustainer.	The Bible tells a story (in Genesis 3) about how humans spoiled their friendship with God
 Humans should care for the world because it belongs to God. 	 (sometimes called 'the Fall'). This means that humans cannot get dose to God without God's help.
	 The Bible shows that God wants to help people to be close to him – he keeps his relationship with them, gives them guidelines on good ways to live (such as the Ten Commandments), and offers forgiveness even when they keep on falling short.
	 Christians show that they want to be close to God too, through obedience and worship, which includes saying sorry for falling short.

People of God:

End KS1 (7)	End lower KS2 (9)
	Pupils will know that:
	 The Old Testament tells the story of a particular group of people, the children of Israel – the People of God – and their relationship with God. The People of God try to live in the way God wants, following his commands and
	 They believe he promises to stay with them, and Bible stories show how God keeps his promises.
	The Old Testament narrative explains that the People of God are meant to show the benefits of having a relationship with God, and to attract all other nations to worshipping God.
	 Christians believe that, through Jesus, all people can become the People of God.

Incarnation:

End KS1 (7)	End lower KS2 (9)
Pupils will know that:	Pupils will know that:
 Christians believe that Jesus is God, and that he was born as a baby in Bethlehem. The Bible points out that his birth showed that he was extraordinary (for example, he is worshipped as a king, in Matthew) and that he came to bring good news (for example, to the poor, in Luke). Christians celebrate Jesus' birth; Advent for Christians is a time for getting ready for Jesus' coming. 	 Christians believe Jesus is one of the three persons of the Trinity: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. Christians believe the Father creates; he sends the Son who saves his people; the Son sends the Holy Spirit to his followers. Christians worship God as Trinity. It is a huge idea to grasp, and artists have created art to help to express this belief. Christians believe the Holy Spirit is God's power at work in the world and in their lives today, enabling them to follow Jesus.

Gospel:

End KS1 (7)

Pupils will know that:

- Christians believe Jesus brings good news for all people.
- For Christians, this good news includes being loved by God, and being forgiven for bad things.
- Christians believe Jesus is a friend to the poor and friendless.
- Christians believe Jesus' teachings make people think hard about how to live and show them the right way.

End lower KS2 (9)

Pupils will know that:

- Christians believe Jesus challenges everyone about how to live – he sets the example for loving God and your neighbour, putting others first.
- Christians believe Jesus challenges people who pretend to be good (hypocrisy), and shows love and forgiveness to unlikely people.
- Christians believe Jesus' life shows what it means to love God (his Father) and love your neighbour.
- Christians try to be like Jesus they want to know him better and better.
- Christians try to put his teaching and example into practice in lots of ways, from church worship to social justice.

Salvation:

End KS1 (7)

Pupils will know that:

- Easter is very important in the 'big story' of the Bible. Jesus showed that he was willing to forgive all people, even for putting him on the cross.
- Christians believe Jesus builds a bridge between God and humans.
- Christians believe Jesus rose from the dead, giving people hope of a new life.

End lower KS2 (9)

Pupils will know that:

- Christians see Holy Week as the culmination of Jesus' earthly life, leading to his death and resurrection.
- The various events of Holy Week, such as the Last Supper, were important in showing the disciples what Jesus came to earth to do.
- Christians today trust that Jesus really did rise from the dead, and so is still alive today.
- Christians remember and celebrate Jesus' last week, death and resurrection.

Kingdom of God:

End KS1 (7)

End lower KS2 (9)

Pupils will know that:

- Christians believe that Jesus inaugurated the 'Kingdom of God' – i.e. Jesus' whole life was a demonstration of his belief that God is king, not just in heaven but here and now ('Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven').
- Christians believe Jesus is still alive, and rules in their hearts and lives through the Holy Spirit, if they let him.
- Christians believe that after Jesus returned to be with God the Father, he sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to help the Church to make Jesus' invisible kingdom visible by living lives that reflect the love of God.
- Christians celebrate Pentecost as the beginning of the Church.
- Staying connected to Jesus means that the fruit of the Spirit can grow in the lives of Christians.

Teaching and learning approach

End Lower KS2 outcomes

Pupils will be able to:



ELEMENT 1: Making sense of the text

Developing skills of reading and interpretation; understanding how Christians interpret, handle and use biblical texts; making sense of meanings of texts for Christians.

- Order at least five key concepts within a timeline of the Bible's 'big story'.
- List two distinguishing features of at least three different types of biblical text, for example, Gospel, parable, letter.
- Make clear links between biblical texts and the key concepts studied.
- Offer suggestions about what texts might mean, and give examples of what the texts studied mean to some Christians.



ELEMENT 2: Understanding the impact

Examining ways in which Christians respond to biblical texts and teachings, and how they put their beliefs into action in diverse ways within the Christian community and in the world.

- Make simple links between Bible texts and concepts studied and how Christians live in their whole lives and in their church communities.
- Describe how Christians show their beliefs in worship and in the way they live.



ELEMENT 3: Making connections

Evaluating, reflecting on and connecting the texts and concepts studied, and discerning possible connections between these and pupils' own lives and ways of understanding the world.

- Raise questions and suggest answers about how far the big ideas explored in the Bible and the concepts studied might make a difference to how pupils think and live.
- Make links between some of the stories and teachings in the Bible and life in the world today, expressing some ideas of their own clearly.

In Year 3, children also learn about Sikhism:

Term 2: What is important to Sikh people? Children should know that:

- Sikhs believe that there is only one God, who they have several names for.(Waheguru)
- Sikhs try to put the teachings and examples of the 10 gurus into daily practice by living a good life, treating everyone equally and sharing all theyhave.
- It is important for Sikh's to belong to a community of believers called the Khalsa.
- Khalsa Sikhs wear 5 articles of faith which reminds them of their faith and duty as a Sikh.

Term 6: How do Sikh people worship and celebrate? Children know that:

• Sikhs can worship at any time or day, at home or in the Gurdwara.

- Sikhs are expected to pray three times a day and mediate and recite words from the holy scriptures
 Sikh people respect and regard The Guru Granth Sahib as a living Guru.
- The Gurdwara is place that is welcome and open to everyone and is known as the 'doorway to the house of God'
- All Sikhs are encouraged by their Guru (Guru Granth Sahib) to perform Seva or Selfless Service.
- Vaisakhi is the biggest and most important Sikh festival, where they remember the founding of the Khalsa and the Sikh New Year.

In Year 4, children also learn about Hinduism:

Term 5: What does it mean to be a Hindu in Britain today? Children should know:

- Examples of what Hindus do to show their faith, and make connections with some Hindu beliefs and teachings about aims and duties in life.
- Some ways in which Hindus express their faith through puja, aarti and bhajans (A2).
- At least two reasons why being a Hindu is a good thing in Britain today, and two reasons why it might be hard sometimes.
- Some links between the actions of Hindus in helping others and ways in which people of other faiths and beliefs, including pupils themselves, help others.

Term 6: Why do some people think that life is a journey and what significant experiences mark this? Children should know:

- Why some people see life as a journey and identify some of the key milestones on this journey.
- What happens in Christian, Jewish, and/or Hindu ceremonies of commitment and say what these rituals mean.
- Reasons why marking the milestones of life are important to Christians, Hindus and/or Jewish people.
- Some questions and answers about how believers show commitment with their own ideas about community, belonging and belief.