



UNLOCKING RE SERIES....

Coming Summer 2025!

This new series, for Primary RE subject leaders and class teachers, is designed to support understanding of these key concepts in Christianity. There are also suggestions to help you adapt these video resources for use in staff meetings. Each short video explains:

- the theological concept within **Christianity**;
- where the concept fits into the **Christianity concept map**;
- why this concept is important for **children's understanding**;
- **how the concept is shaped** through the relevant units of work within the Surrey Agreed Syllabus for RE.



Each presentation requires some supporting materials, which can be found on [GDBE-elevate](#), in 'Materials for school leaders', under the 'Unlocking RE' tab, as well as selected units of work referred to in the sessions. Also included are 'helpsheets' to support subject knowledge around each concept, which will also contain links for anyone needing further information.

Watch the Introductory presentation for this series [here](#).

Key vocabulary for concepts in Christianity:

God: the supreme deity for Christians, who is the creator of everything and is understood / experienced by Christians as the **Trinity**;

Trinity: the Christian belief that God can be known as three distinct persons (Father, Son and Holy Spirit), yet God is still one. They sometimes call this a 'mystery'!

Creation: the very beginning of life on Earth (& in the Universe), which Christians believe was made by God. God said .that in the beginning it was 'very good'.

Free will: the Christian belief that God gave humankind the ability to choose for themselves what is right and good – or not – including to believe in him, which is linked to '**The Fall**' – the Christian belief that the choices made by Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden had consequences and broke the relationship between God, humankind and the natural world.

Covenant: a special type of agreement or promise that people make to each other, with both obligations and consequences. God made covenants with his people, the Israelites, so in our syllabus, they are called **Covenant People**.

Gospel: [*lit. 'Good News'*] There are four Gospels [Matthew, Mark, Luke & John] in the New Testament which contain eye-witness accounts of the birth, life, death, resurrection (& in Mark, Ascension) of Jesus.

Salvation: Christian belief that Jesus' death and resurrection have rescued Christians from the effects of 'the Fall' and mended the broken relationship between God and humankind.

Kingdom of God: the place where God reigns, which Christians believe is here on earth, now, and in heaven, for eternity. Jesus taught people about God's Kingdom; for Christians, they live as part God's Kingdom on earth, following the example that Jesus set.

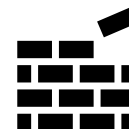


Story videos to help teacher understanding:

- Y3: Big Bible Story: script on p10-11 within the planning for the Y3 unit 'What's the Bible's big story – and why is it like treasure for Christians?'
- [Y5 The Rescue Plan](#), from the Y5 unit 'Why is the idea of rescue so important to Christians?':
- [Always There A Big Bible Story - YouTube](#) from the Y6 unit 'How is God Three- and yet One?':



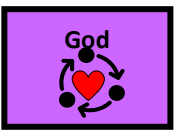
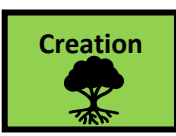
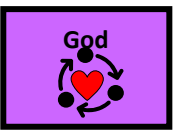
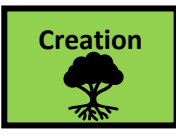
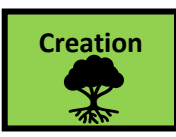
'UNLOCKING RE': An introductory helpsheet



Where do the concepts feature across the phases?

To some degree, each concept can only be better understood by understanding the others, which is why many units have more than one concept linked with them, and why the Big Bible Story narrative is so important in understanding the concepts.

You might remember that **the curriculum is the progression model**, so this is reflected in the way that concepts introduced in one phase are built on in future phases, and new concepts are added in age-appropriate ways. This is demonstrated in the helpsheet that works alongside each presentation. The chart below looks very neat, but of course in reality, some of the boundaries between concepts and units are a little blurry as we try to help pupils to make links between them, and drip-feed some concepts in earlier units.

Phase	Concepts featured...				And introduced to...
EYFS	In EYFS, pupils will have been introduced to some important words, people, stories and places in Christianity, which set foundations for learning in KS1				   
KS1					 As part of Y2 unit 'Why is giving important to Christians?'
LKS2					 As part of the Big Bible Story in Y3 unit 'What's the Bible's Big Story – and why is it like treasure for Christians?', linked with the events of the Fall.
					
UKS2					 More formally linked with the concept of Creation in the Y5 unit 'What do Christians believe about Creation?' to help pupils to better understand the impact of the Fall on the created world and humankind, & appreciate the need for God's plan of salvation as part of the Y5 unit 'Why is the idea of rescue so important to Christians?'
					

Title	Video link	You will also need the helpsheet and....
Unlocking RE: Trinity	https://youtu.be/u2RIE2wGe3M	Y6 unit: 'How is God Three – and yet One?'
Unlocking RE: Creation	https://youtu.be/LMKILElioTQ	Y5 unit: 'What do Christians believe about Creation?'
Unlocking RE: Covenant People	https://youtu.be/JF0IZ9P9cd8	Y4 unit 'What did God promise to his people?' LKS2 unit: 'What are important times for Jewish people?'
Unlocking RE: Incarnation	https://youtu.be/lqyO68aRb4Y	Y1 unit: 'What is the 'Nativity' – and why is it important to Christians?' Y6 unit: 'What do Christians believe about the Messiah – and why is it good news?'
Unlocking RE: Salvation & Free Will	https://youtu.be/7yvCkRbb2PU	Y2 unit: 'Why do Christians call Jesus 'Saviour'?' Y5 unit: 'Why is the idea of rescue so important to Christians?'
Unlocking RE: Gospel	https://youtu.be/t3P1qf3eU44	No specific units of work
Unlocking RE: Kingdom of God	https://youtu.be/FostmoNUDT8	Y4 unit: 'What did Jesus say about God's Kingdom – and why was it good news?'