



SU GROUPS

A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR YOUR SCHOOL

A PLACE OF... **PARTNERSHIP**

A PLACE TO... **REFLECT & LEARN**

A PLACE TO... **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

A PLACE TO... **GROW**

SU GROUPS work within Scottish Government guidelines and with the permission of the headteacher. Throughout Scotland there are hundreds of SU GROUPS running in primary, secondary and special schools. Scripture Union Scotland is a national charity that has supported schools for over 80 years. Our groups are led by fully accredited volunteers and staff who are members of the PVG scheme.



SU GROUPS

A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR YOUR SCHOOL

A PLACE TO... REFLECT & LEARN

Our starting point is that pupils are capable of making informed choices and acting in their own interests. Individuals are respected, regardless of their faith (or no faith) background.

We view all our activities as part of our contribution to the spiritual development of pupils; helping them to learn about Christian beliefs and see authentic faith in action.

- ✓ Learning in the Social Studies will enable me to develop my understanding of my own values, beliefs and cultures and those of others.

—Curriculum for Excellence, Social Studies. Experiences and Outcomes

- ✓ I can expect my learning environment to support me to understand and develop my physical, mental and spiritual wellbeing and social skills.

—Health and wellbeing across learning: responsibilities of all Experiences and Outcomes

- ✓ **SU GROUPS** are open to all pupils to attend. We lead groups for the benefit of all children irrespective of gender, sexuality, ethnicity, ability or disability, age, political persuasion or beliefs. We believe that all children are of equal worth, being made in the image of God. We fully respect that individual children may commit to different beliefs and values. We acknowledge diversity and understand that it is everyone's responsibility to challenge discrimination.

—The protocol for SU Scotland staff and volunteers working in Scottish schools



A PLACE TO... **MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

SU GROUPS seek to create opportunities for interested pupils to make a difference in practical ways by serving others in school or further afield.

✓ Children and young people should be given opportunities to participate in service to others and to meet people who show their faith in action.

—Education Scotland:
RME Principles & Practice

A PLACE TO... **GROW**

One of the key elements to any SU GROUP is exploring the Bible through open discussion, encouraging questions and sharing experiences. SU GROUPS can take different forms:

- a handful of pupils chatting together, or a busy classroom engaged in a fun activity;
- held at lunchtime or after school;
- meeting in a classroom or gym hall.

✓ When members of a non-denominational school community wish to have opportunities for organised acts of worship, Headteachers should consider these requests positively and make suitable arrangements if possible.

—Provision of Religious Observance in Scottish Schools, March 2017

**[suscotland.org.uk/
sugroups](http://suscotland.org.uk/sugroups)**

SU GROUPS

A VALUABLE RESOURCE FOR
YOUR SCHOOL

**The young people of
SU Scotland decided that
SU GROUPS should:**

- ✓ be safe places where all pupils are welcomed and respected; where Christian values are modelled;
- ✓ be fun, memorable, exciting and age-appropriate;
- ✓ have good, challenging, interactive Bible engagement;
- ✓ have time where there is opportunity for prayer;
- ✓ be well structured and led; the leader(s) recognising and using the talents of others;
- ✓ have a positive impact on the school, and be known amongst pupils;
- ✓ explore Christian faith and encourage one another on their journey;
- ✓ work cooperatively and openly with the leadership of the school.

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