



SU GROUPS

a valuable resource
for your school

» A PLACE OF PARTNERSHIP

SU Groups work within Scottish Government guidelines and with the permission of the headteacher. Throughout Scotland there are around 500 SU Groups running in primary and secondary schools. Scripture Union Scotland is a national charity that has supported schools for over 70 years. Our groups are led by fully accredited volunteers and staff who are members of the PVG scheme.

» A PLACE TO
REFLECT &
LEARN

» A PLACE TO
MAKE A
DIFFERENCE

» A PLACE TO
GROW

» A PLACE TO REFLECT AND 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.

- I expect 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
- We support the right of children and young people to understand and choose between “the range of religious and secular beliefs which are part of our diverse Scottish society”; we fully respect each child’s right to commit to different beliefs and values. We will discuss the differences between Christian belief and other world views without criticising those who hold them.
—SU Scotland Schools Protocol



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» 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.

- ✓ Members of the school community including pupils...may wish to have opportunities for organised acts of worship within the informal curriculum of the school. [Government] Ministers would encourage headteachers to consider these requests positively and make suitable arrangements.

—Scottish Executive Circular 2005/1
Provision of Religious Observance



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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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