

SU Themes Getting Creative



SU Styles How it is run

It will depend on the context of your SU group i.e. when and where you meet/how regular, as to what will be realistic to cover in your SU meeting throughout the academic year. Some SU groups do it in cycles that they would repeat throughout the term, E.g. Week 1-Social/ Week 2-Guest Speaker/ Week 3-Bible Study/ Week 4-pupil

to share. Other people have done one off game or quiz days or praise time.



Sometimes the school calendar will not allow for a regular theme to take place but some schools do mini themes e.g. Omagh Academy have looked at 'prayer, fellowship, Bible reading' as spokes on the wheel of life of a Christian.



Depending on context depends on how well these work and every school is different and so you have to find out what is right for you. By having a theme enables a consistent focus (no matter the length of time you do it). For New-Bridge Integrated, they use their noticeboard to update their theme every month which will have a key verse that pupils and/or teachers can rip off as they walk past. Portadown College have done a theme for 2 years in the past to allow for greater consistency. Armagh Royal do a more gospel orientated theme in term 1 and more of a Bible book focus in term 2. What would work for you?

TOP TIPS To think about

-What atmosphere are you setting for pupils coming in to your SU group? How could this improve? e.g. For Rathfriland High 'Food is a must'/Belfast Inst Juniors always have music playing for the pupils coming in/ Sperrin Integrated provide hot

chocolate on a weekly basis/ Portadown hand out Haribo on the way in.

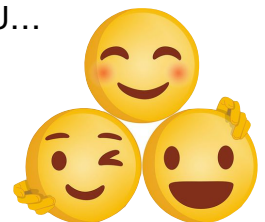


-Are there past pupils who you could bring in to share of their experience since leaving school or how they found being a Christian at school?

-How can you get local churches involved?

-Could you raise money for the local schools workers of SU... especially if you think it would be a good idea for your area?!

-Are there local schools in your area with SU groups that you could link up with throughout the year? If you have a Junior and a Senior, why not combine them a couple of times a year?



SU Themes & Ideas

What to share

GOSPEL ORIENTATED

e.g. Cross Word
-Taking a different 'gospel' word from the Bible and unpacking it every week e.g. Salvation



GOSPEL BASICS

e.g. Christianity Explored/Soul/Alpha

MISSION TEAMS

Making pupils aware of the opportunities out there. Inviting organisations to come and share what's available e.g. Scripture Union NI's Camps & Missions of course



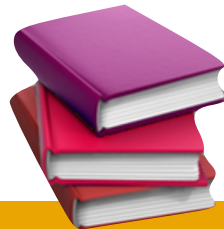
SU Trips

Weekends
Christmas Party
Summer BBQ
Trip e.g. Bowling or every year
Brownlow go to Christmas markets



BOOK RESOURCE

e.g. SU's Substance -different themes



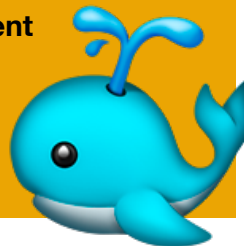
KEY PHRASES

e.g. the 'I am' sayings of Jesus



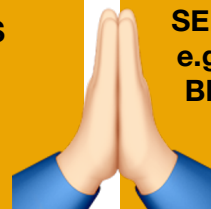
BIBLE CHARACTERS

e.g. Old Testament



KEY WORDS

e.g. Identity /Grace



VIDEO RESOURCE

e.g. Philippians by Matt Chandler
Or Bible project videos as part of the session.

GRAND DESIGNS

Comparing our lives to building a house e.g. laying a foundation, inside matching the outside



BOOK OF THE BIBLE

e.g. One of Paul's Epistles Colossians/ Ephesians etc



HOW 2 SERIES

e.g. Prayer/Read your Bible/ Talk to your friends.

KEY TIMES

e.g. CUI to come and share about being a Christian at university
OR Do a special SU for those starting for the first time or at key points in their school life e.g. year 8s starting, if there is a Senior SU then the year they start, final year pupils finishing

