Schools Ministry

Student Leader Guide





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Using this document

This guide is here to support you as a student leader involved in sharing Jesus in your highschool

Inside, you'll find everything you need to feel confident and prepared to lead in your school.





Who is Scripture Union NSW?

Get to know us!

Scripture Union NSW is all about sharing the awesome message of Jesus with kids, teens, and families. We've been around since 1880, and now you're part of our crew, teaming up to spread the love of Jesus across New South Wales.

What SU NSW is About

Working closely with churches, Scripture Union NSW aims to:

- Spread God's Good News to kids, teens, and families.
- Get everyone pumped to connect with God daily through the Bible and prayer, helping them to:
 - o Discover a personal faith in Jesus
 - Grow stronger in their Christian journey
 - Become active church members and help those in need.

Want to know more about what we're all about? Check out our website sunsw.org.au

The Story of SUNSW Lunchtime Groups

Back in 1935, we kicked off our first 'ISCF' (Interschool Christian Fellowship) group, and since then, our school ministry groups have been a big deal in New South Wales state schools.

From that first group, we've grown into loads of schools. Now, more than 100 groups get together every week, with around 1,500 students hanging out, praying, and diving into the Bible.





Getting Started

Consult Your Principal

First get your principal on board with you running a student-led group. Often, if you approach them and explain your intention, they are supportive. If you run into any obstacles, SU NSW is here to help. Reach out to our schools team schools@sunsw.org.au.

gister as a Volunteer

This is our way of knowing where groups are and who is running them. We want to support at every step of the way. When you fill out the form we will ask for:



Scan to register

- Minister Reference
- Parent Details

Get going!

Now you're ready to follow our **4 P's** to setting up your group!



Prayer serves as a crucial and powerful cornerstone for the ministry within schools. Encourage individuals to participate in regular prayer for you, your group, and the entire school community.



PROMOTE

Inquire with your school about how they support promoting your group. Some students make announcements during assembly, request the SRE to talk about it in their class and put posters up around school.



PIAN

Some things to think through in your planning:

- When and where your meeting will be
- Set the group's rules and guidelines
- List the key resources you



PERMISSION

Students are required to obtain parental permission. SU NSW has copies of forms and ways to make sure you've got this element covered.





Being a Leader

- Be Responsible: Being a leader gives you power—use it wisely and never misuse it.
- **Set a Good Example**: Your actions speak volumes, and younger people are watching. Show positivity with your words and actions.
- **Stay Curious**: Keep an open mind to learn new things, as you'll come across many fresh ideas.
- **Build Trust**: Create safe friendships with your peers to make everyone feel supported.
- **Stay Dedicated**: Being a leader means putting in effort and sticking with it. Even when it's tough, a dedicated leader can make a big difference.
- **Grow Your Faith**: While helping others, also focus on your own spiritual journey. Remember, Jesus is with you, so talk to Him and follow His teachings.
- **Ask for Help**: Know when to reach out for support for yourself or others. It's super important if someone shares they've been hurt by adults.
- **Be Accountable**: Take responsibility for your actions and stick to your commitments with your group and leaders.

Safe Boundaries as a Student Leader

We want to make sure all our groups are safe, fun and a great place for students to come along to. Part of doing this is making sure we keep everyone safe - even you!

Some practical tips:

- Do this with a co-leader to make sure you develop a team.
- Treat everyone in your group as important and valued.
- Choose games and activities that are fun for everyone and are not rough or dangerous.

E trick

 Make sure that when you are talking to other students about the group in digital ways you make sure you include your co-leader.





Ways we can support you

· Networking with other student Leaders

A big part of what we offer is connection to the SU NSW family! This is a network that goes right across NSW and links with other elements of SU NSW, such as Camps and Missions. We are always looking for ways to connect student leaders with other student leaders, so you know you are not alone!

· Access to Leadership Conferences

As part of SU NSW, we are committed to growing and developing leaders. Part of this is that we have access to leadership conferences and want to help you develop and find ways to be inspired and nurtured in your faith journey.

· Connection with our Schools Ministry Team

We have a school's ministry team that is dedicated to supporting you and the ministry you are a part of. Make sure you register as a volunteer so we can connect you in.

· Relevant resources you can use

On our website there is a whole suite of resources available to you to use. When you are registered as a volunteer these are free for you.

· Helping make sure groups continue after you

We want to make sure the ministry you are involved in now continues when its time for you to leave. Being apart of the SU NSW network helps build a sense of consistency and momentum ensuring that groups continue to be nurtured.





Top Tips for Student Leaders

· Make sure you have people supporting you

Sometimes you might face a few hurdles in trying something new like this. Make sure you have a trusted adult whom you can go to for support. Some other student leaders get support from:

- SU NSW Approved School Volunteer
- Trusted Teacher
- The SRE Teacher
- Chaplain
- Youth Minister/Pastor

We would strongly recommend you ask someone to mentor you as you serve in this way. It would be great if they could even pop in to your group once a month and support. We would just need them to register as a volunteer with us. If you don't know who to ask, email the school's team, and we can help find someone to support you.

· Build a team

Finding other students who are Christian and want to be a part of this is great. Doing things in a team environment means everyone shares the load and works together for the good of others. When you're building a team make sure everyone is clear on what they are going to do and make sure you regularly talk and plan together.

· Access the resources

Our schools ministry team is here to support you! You can reach out to us whenever via schools@sunsw.org.au. On our website, there are also lots of resources which you can access to help your group run well.



John 14:27

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.



Contact Us:



