

WILL YOU HELP US

light up

SCOTLAND

ONE YOUNG LIFE
AT A TIME?



SU Scotland

We have a big vision to reach children and young people with the gospel and we'd love you to be a part of it.

This Christmas time, will you help us light up Scotland, one young life at a time?

We will continue to deliver the same amazing ministry opportunities such as...

**SU Holidays
and Weekends**

SU Groups

**Christmas/Easter
Presentations**

**Community Based
Mission**

Gap Year

Bible Alive

Digital Resources

Magnitude Events

School Residential Breaks

**Young Leaders'
Training and Events**

**SU International
Partnerships**



Working together, we will use our new Anchors as the foundation across all our ministries:



BIBLES
OPEN



DISCIPLES
MAKING
DISCIPLES



PRAYER
CENTRAL



SERVING
CHURCHES



MINISTRY AT
THE MARGINS
PRIORITISED



RESIDENTIALS
TRANSFORM
LIVES



VOLUNTEERS
FIRST

In addition to our existing ministries, we have a few key areas we'll be developing significantly over the next three years...



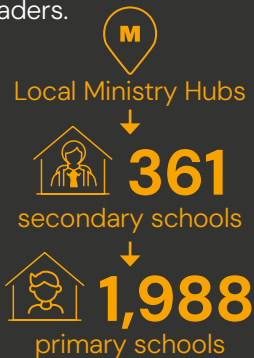
GOING LOCAL

Local Ministries describes all our work in Scotland's schools, churches and local communities, carried out by an amazing army of volunteers from, and in partnership with local churches, supported by our Regional Workers, Associate Trusts and Missions Development Manager.

With your help, we want to connect with every child and young person in Scotland, giving them the opportunity to hear the good news of God's love and his salvation plan for their lives.

But with 705,528¹ school-age children in Scotland, how might we achieve that?! We believe the answer comes through our new Local Ministry Hubs, which work like this:

Local Ministry Hubs at the heart of every high school cluster, populated with church partnerships, volunteers, youth organisations, Christian parents and teachers, prayer supporters and pupil leaders.



As the Local Ministries team develops and strengthens these community connections, we expect to see an increase in the number of associate trusts and SU Missions across the country.

Do pray for our Regional Workers, Associate Trusts and Mission teams, and that doors and hearts will be opened to them. Please pray with us as we seek to have meaningful Christian contact with every school, whether through prayer, an SU Group or an RME (religious and moral education) lesson; as we partner with local churches, local believers and other youth organisations; and as we give every child and young person the opportunity to explore the Bible and respond to the significance of Jesus.

As part of a visit to deliver Bible Alive classes, Caroline, our Clackmannanshire Schools Ministry Coordinator, felt led to take Bibles for any children who wanted to pick one up after the session. In faith, Caroline took an ambitious 50 Bibles with her. The next day the classroom teacher emailed to say all 50 copies had been taken! What an encouragement and evidence of God at work in this 'open generation'!

MULTIPLYING CONNECTIONS

We need to go and meet children and young people where they are; and one of the places they spend a significant amount of time is online. The digital world can be a dark place, but with your help we can bring the light of Jesus into this space. We're doing this by creating new, engaging and relevant online resources and content for young people to explore and share.

Our digital youth work stream continues to grow, with online groups expanding from gaming to include creative writing and a 'going deeper' Bible study. We also plan to expand our residential programme, with SU Holidays based around gaming, coding and content creation, appealing to young people who wouldn't otherwise go on an SU Holiday.

We also see huge opportunity to connect with children in schools through new curriculum resources like Explore Christmas; filmed in Scotland, with local hosts and school children. We hope this will be the start of a whole new suite of resources for schools under the 'Explore' banner, with Explore Easter coming Spring 2025. These resources will help take the light of Jesus into schools across Scotland.

"Tom came to Gaming Camp, referred to us by a social work agency. He took some time to settle in and was unable to make eye contact with anyone for a couple of days. But over the week we could see God working in Tom as he began to interact during the Bible exploration times. After camp, Tom signed up to our online gaming groups to keep in touch with his new friends, and he decided to join us for our November weekend too! We know that God isn't finished with Tom, and it will be a joy to watch this young man's journey over the next few years."*

Andrew Stothard
Digital Youth Work Lead

**name changed to protect identity*



¹ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/summary-statistics-for-schools-in-scotland-2023/>

PRIORITISING THE MARGINS

24%

of Scotland's young people live in relative poverty²

20,000

young people have a family member in prison each year³

37%

have additional support needs (ASN)⁴

12,200

children in Scotland are care experienced⁵

Given these stats, our Ministry at the Margins work is more vital than ever. Your support has helped us to increase our staff in this area, specifically around Additional Support Needs (ASN). We have forged new key partnerships with Safe Families and Families Outside, in addition to our existing partnership with Circle (all these organisations work with young people at the margins). We will continue to offer and grow both inclusive and specialised provision, including SU Motiv8 Holidays, ensuring all our ministry is a welcoming place for all young people. This will also involve the development of new local youth projects in priority communities, with Glasgow a priority.

Elaine Tait, our ASN Development Co-ordinator, shares about her experience at Magnitude, our summer youth festival:

"It was such a privilege to facilitate the ASN Connect Team, offering an alternative worship space for those who would have experienced sensory overload in the Big Top. A choice of activities helped young people connect in a different way with the teaching and helped them reflect on their response to the message. Many youth leaders expressed appreciation of this space for their ASN young people, but the highlight was when a young person said:

"Thank you for understanding my additional need"."

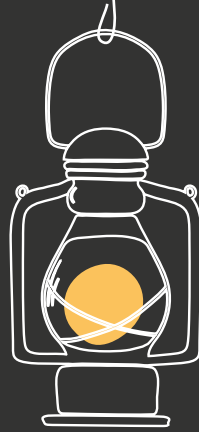
² <https://data.gov.scot/poverty/>

³ <https://childreninscotland.org.uk/the-importance-of-youth-participation-for-supporting-families-affected-by-imprisonment/>

⁴ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/school-level-summary-statistics/>

⁵ <https://www.gov.scot/publications/childrens-social-work-statistics-2022-23-looked-after-children/>

GOING DEEPER



As our ministry grows, we will invest in skills training and discipleship programmes for all involved in the ministry — young leaders, volunteers and staff — to help us be as effective and fruitful as possible. This will include our newly SQA-accredited Commission Programme for young leaders. We will also build the staff team to enable growth across our ministries.

One young leader, Zach, recently reflected on his time on the Commission Programme:

"It can feel really challenging to share your Christian faith in a school setting. I know we are called to be light in the darkness. This summer helped me to feel more ready for that challenge."



Please will you give a gift today to help light up Scotland, one young life at a time?



A gift of £45

could help put a young leader through leadership development training to help them share the light of Jesus with other young people.



A gift of £120

could help equip a local ministries hub with resources to help shine a light in local schools.



A gift of £250

could help us create exciting and relevant new digital content and shine a light in online spaces such as social media.



A gift of £375

could help set up a new local youth project in a more disadvantaged area, shining a light in the darkness.

"For some, SU Scotland might only be about fun times at camps, socialising in different contexts and a chance to learn about God — which is so valuable and not to be undermined. But for others, SU can be a saving grace, a way out of a life not so great, a buoy for people to hold on to when they feel like they're drowning in their personal lives and I think that is an incredible feat that needs to be continued and supported. My life was certainly changed for the better due to SU, others can be too."

Jo Corrigan,

Schools Host at Alltnacriche and former SU young person

To read more about our new strategy please visit suscotland.org.uk/strategy

To give a special Christmas gift, please scan here:



Or visit suscotland.org.uk/lightupscotland

Thank you for helping light up Scotland!

