

5

**HOW TO**  
**HAND OVER**  
**A CU**



# HOW TO HAND OVER A CU

If you help lead a Christian Union – you'll know how quickly terms whiz by. Before you know it, you'll be considering the future of CU and the need to hand over the reins to someone else. (Ideally, by the end of April or early May.)

Here are some top tips on how to hand over a CU well (with help from two of our Student Engagement Team who have been there, done that and got the t-shirt not too long ago!)



Tim's CU was run by a few sixth formers and had around 10 regulars from years 7 – 13.



Alireza's CU was made up of 25 students, he led the sessions and had support from three Christian teachers.

# 1

## Pray & get others praying

*Philippians 4:6-7.* Give this whole process and season to your Heavenly Father in prayer – whether there are clear front runners to hand over to or you feel burdened about whether CU can continue once you leave. Ask people around you (like parents if they're believers, youth leaders, Christian friends and anyone who looks out for you at church) to pray too.

Email Festive and we will join in: [info@festive.org.uk](mailto:info@festive.org.uk) we might also be able to give advice if there doesn't seem to be anyone to pass the baton onto.



## Invite students into the adventure

Some students may be really keen to head up CU! They may be buzzing with ideas and know that prompting to step out in faith and take it on. Others may feel unsure about what it would entail and whether they could do it. Why not grab a coffee and chat it all through? Talk about what it's been like for you and how it runs at the moment. See if they have any ideas or questions. Have a pray with them about it!

# 2



[festive.org.uk](http://festive.org.uk)



Festive is a Registered Charity No. 1123966

# 3

## Working as a team

Where possible, see if a small team of leaders could run the group. This helps to stop everything being shouldered by one person, builds unity and gives opportunity for different gifts and skills to be brought in. In larger CUs, this may mean that a few leaders could steer the vision and run the group. In smaller CUs, why not share responsibilities out so that everyone has a part to play?



## Show them what they're aiming for

Whether potential new leaders are daunted or full of enthusiasm, it is much easier to go for something when you know what you're aiming for! Set their eyes on what God can do and the power in gathered believers where you study. Have a read through or print off some resources that spell out what Christian Unions are all about.

These resources may come in handy:

*What is a CU? What makes a great CU? What to do at my CU?*

Find them here: [www.festive.org.uk/running-a-cu](http://www.festive.org.uk/running-a-cu)

They'll also be helpful resources for you as you pray about who may be suitable!

# 4



## Involve new leaders early

If possible, it's beneficial to run the CU alongside any new leaders during your last term at school/college. Seek to get them involved in a more 'hands on' way before your exam/revision season hits! This will help them gain confidence, learn how you lead sessions and help the rest of CU to get to know them better too.



## Get them supported:

**Local Churches:** Connect up new leaders with any supportive local churches so that they can pray and advertise CU amongst their young people. They may be able to offer help either practically, financially or with wisdom from the side-lines.

**School / college staff:** Put new leaders in touch with any staff who have either supported the CU or been helpful with things like booking rooms.

**Festive:** Tell them about Festive and get them signed up to the student network! We've got loads of free resources for CUs to use, online training events connecting students up with others all across the country and we would love to help with any advice where helpful (and of course pray!)

Fill in a handy 'CU handover sheet' on the next page, inspired by one former spreadsheet-loving CU leader Jess!

# 6



[festive.org.uk](http://festive.org.uk)



# CU HANDOVER SHEET

## THE BASICS:

CU Room	
CU session times	
CU session structure	

## PEOPLE THAT HAVE BEEN COMING ALONG:


## HELPFUL CONTACTS: (IN COLLEGE/SIXTH FORM, IN LOCAL CHURCHES ETC)


## HELPFUL WEBSITES / RESOURCES:

(E.G. FESTIVE.ORG.UK, BIBLEGATEWAY.COM, ALPHA, CHRISTIANITY EXPLORED, ANY GOOD GIVEAWAY BOOKS ETC)


## THINGS THAT WORKED WELL:

--

## THINGS THAT WE NEEDED TO ADAPT/CHANGE:

--

## IF YOU DO ONE THING, DO THIS...

--

## IDEAS WE NEVER USED

--