

What are you doing next?

Come and be our Youth Worker



St Paul's Ireland Wood is an established church in North Leeds focused around the three estates of Ireland Wood, Tinshill and Holt Park. Five years ago, the Church was revitalised through a plant from St George's, Leeds, and is realising our vision of becoming a "Growing community, Shaped by Jesus". We are developing ways to be a resource church for the wider area and the church is increasingly becoming a centre of the local community.

The church has more than doubled in size since the revitalisation, and while much of the growth has been young families, there are increasing numbers of older children and young people who are part of the church. In the last year alone, our numbers of children and young people have doubled, both as families have joined the church and through local outreach initiatives. As the church has grown, so too has its connections with the local community, partnerships with local councillors, residents' associations, schools and organisations.

St Paul's has about 200 people regularly attending, about a third of whom are children and young people. Sundays usually consist of a formal communion service, followed by an informal worship service with children and youth groups. Midweek for young people there is an online youth discipleship group and an after-school drop in. The church hosts a variety of community based projects; warm welcome initiative, games community, food bank, large tots group, craft community, and youth drop in. The church also runs various outreach activities including 'the Big Treat' at Halloween, lego cafes and holiday clubs. St Paul's supports various mission partners, both local and international. Outside the church buildings, the church is engaged in 2 secondary and 3 primary schools, with a variety of lessons, assemblies and lunch time clubs.

JOB DESCRIPTION

We are looking for a youth worker to join our staff team to help us see our young people become a "Growing Community, Shaped by Jesus" within the life of St Paul's Church and in the surrounding community. Building on the relationships and connections already in place, you will extend our reach as a church, helping local young people discover the transforming love and grace of Jesus through church, community and schools work. We want someone who will lead by example, support and equip our fantastic volunteer team, and shape our youth work within the vision of the wider church.

We believe this is an exciting role for someone keen to contribute to a growing church. We have a well established core of young people and older children, a team of volunteers with a range of experience and significant opportunities to pioneer new initiatives with the prayerful and practical support of the wider church community and an experienced staff team. We're excited about the possibility of seeing a youth worker lead the growth of our current youth work, but also playing a resourcing role in the development of discipleship across the diocese of Leeds.



MAIN PURPOSE OF ROLE

To enable the young people of St Paul's Church to grow in faith and live into the vision to be a Growing Community, Shaped by Jesus and develop the outreach of the church amongst local young people. This is a growing age group in the church and, as such, the role involves significant aspects of pioneering to initiate and develop varied projects that both engage with young people in the community and more discipleship focused work.

You will be expected to pursue the vision through three key areas:

Church:

to oversee the work with our current young people on a Sunday morning and midweek that disciples children and young people connected with church. Currently this looks like overseeing up to 10 children in years 4-6 and a further 8 in years 7-9 on a Sunday morning. These groups will naturally grow in the next 6 months as 5 children move into year 4 and 5 into year 7. We are looking to develop our midweek 'Encounter' group, helping the 12 young people attending online go deeper in their faith.

Community and Outreach:

to develop our community work with local partnerships, schools and opportunities that emerge, and start outreach initiatives which may involve detached work, schools work or weekly outreach. Currently, we have a significant presence in one secondary school, and are looking to take up opportunities in our local secondary school, building on work in the local primary schools. Some of our core young people are inviting their friends to our weekly after school drop in.

Team:

to work in partnership with the children and families' worker to coordinate, train, support and recruit a team of volunteers to enable the children and youthwork of St Paul's to thrive. We currently have a team of 14 volunteers who enable the youth work to take place.



MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The post-holder will be line managed by one of the Clergy team and work in close partnership with the Vicar, the Staff Team and the PCC in order to:

1. Be responsible for the delivery of 8-18s ministry at St Paul's - to be growing and developing a team of volunteers, shaping plans, creating material and involved in the delivery on a regular basis.
2. Be responsible for the development of community and outreach work with this age group. This should also include exploring detached work, weekly after school clubs, and schools' work.
3. To work with others to organise and plan seasonal and other events which reach out to the community.
4. To foster good relationships between the team, children, parents and carers and to communicate well.
5. To be supportive and participate in the planning and delivery of All-Age worship.
6. To work with clergy and other leaders to provide pastoral care for children and parents/carers associated with the youth ministry.
7. To prioritise the safeguarding and safety of children in all aspects of ministry following Church of England policies and procedures.
8. To have a good awareness of life throughout the whole church.
9. To participate in staff and team meetings.

Professional Development

The post-holder will be expected to maintain professional development through management supervision; team meetings; courses and training as appropriate. On-going support through a work mentor is available. There is scope for the role to grow and develop.



PERSON SPECIFICATION

	Essential	Desirable
Experience and Knowledge	<p>Previous experience of working with young people</p> <p>Awareness of the development needs and important issues relating to this age group.</p> <p>Able to communicate faith in Jesus and to enable young people to grow as disciples of Jesus.</p> <p>Understanding of Safeguarding</p> <p>Satisfactory enhanced DBS check</p> <p>Team Player</p> <p>Worked with volunteers</p>	<p>Relevant qualification e.g Youth or Children's work/ministry, Social Care or Teaching</p> <p>Experience of leading and managing teams</p> <p>Experience of leading All-Age worship</p> <p>Confident in leading from the front in a gathered situation.</p> <p>Has experience of 'outreach' work linking with other organisations and agencies.</p> <p>An ability to theologically reflect and respond to aspects of the ministry</p>
Interpersonal Skills	<p>Able to establish strong working relationships with children, colleagues and volunteers.</p> <p>Good communication skills</p> <p>To be trustworthy and understand appropriate confidentiality.</p> <p>Enthusiastic and personable</p>	<p>Can Identify and encourage skills and abilities in volunteers</p> <p>Has understanding of 'family' issues and how they may affect young people and parents.</p>
Other Skills	<p>Good organisation and administrative skills</p> <p>Ability to prioritise workload</p> <p>Proficient in the use of IT - Microsoft Office, Google Docs, and Email</p> <p>Ability to work alone and as part of a team</p> <p>Ability to use initiative and be pro-active.</p>	<p>Monitoring and Evaluation skills</p> <p>Experience in working with a budget</p> <p>Experience of event and project management.</p> <p>Understanding of the use of digital media in communication/ advertising</p>
Expression of Faith	<p>A committed Christian who is experienced in the life of church.</p> <p>Is confident and resilient in their faith</p> <p>Willingness to work within the authority structures of the Church of England.</p> <p>Demonstrates what it means to be a follower of Jesus in everyday life.</p> <p>Is committed to their own spiritual development</p>	



KEY TERMS

Contract

Permanent

Probationary Period

There is a 6 month probationary period.

Start Date

As soon as available, though we are open to the right candidate starting as late as the summer.

Office

An office space will be provided within St Paul's Church. Working from home is acceptable at certain times by agreement.

Hours and pattern of work

37.5 hours per week, the work will include work on a Sunday and will be necessarily flexible and involve evening and weekend work. As such the ability to manage hours and communicate this is vital. 5 weeks holiday a year plus usual bank holidays.

Remuneration

£21,255-25,000 per annum depending on experience

GOR - St Paul's Church Ireland Wood is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to a satisfactory DBS criminal record check and the offer of post is subject to this requirement being fulfilled and all references and checks being satisfactory.

There is a genuine occupational requirement for the holder of this post to be a Christian.

