

YOUTH WORKER

A Partnership of St Mary's church, Cheadle Parish PCC Charity Number 1134783 **and Churches Together in Heald Green Youth Initiative (CTHGYI)** Charity Number 1076487

Title	Youth Worker
Hours	37.5 hours per week <i>(flexible working to include some evenings and Sundays but to include at least one full day off)</i> Proportionately 3/5 of time is allocated to St Mary's, and 2/5 to the CTHGYI
Salary	In the range £18,117 - £24,636 depending on experience <i>(based on equivalent JNC Grade: Youth and Community Worker)</i> plus pension
Length of contract	24 months (subject to review after 12 months)
Holidays	28 days per annum (including 8 statutory days/year)
Responsible to	Oversight Team – made up of a C&Y overseer from St Mary's; a Trustee of CTHGYI and the Parish Manager from St Mary's
Responsible for	Work with young people aged 11-18 years – enabling and supporting their discipleship at St Mary's Cheadle, and the ministry known as TAG ("Talk about God") at Heald Green.

Role

The post is a new collaboration between the Churches in the two communities of Cheadle and Heald Green, working with young people aged 11-18, with distinctive local responsibilities in each community, but with considerable shared interest in work with local secondary schools.

Both organisations are looking for someone with a passionate mature faith and experience of youth work, to work with the existing teams of volunteer leaders to innovatively:

1. Disciple young people in the Christian faith;
2. Reach out to them more effectively with the good news of Jesus, including in local secondary schools and the transition from primary school;
3. Encourage and strengthen existing teams, by personal involvement or leadership where appropriate.

Objectives

To co-ordinate and develop the work with young people (11-18yrs), leading teams for their discipleship and facilitating exploration of the Christian faith and how this can relate to their own lives.

To develop work in the local secondary schools (and liaising with year 6 leavers), working through school assemblies, lessons, and in support of Christian Unions' working with other school's workers (such as Christians in Schools).

Specifically at St Mary's to work with existing teams to effectively disciple young people, share faith with them and to support other leaders, particularly through the Forge (yr6-9), Rooted (yr7-9) and Focus (yr10-13).

Specifically at TAG, to demonstrate that the Churches in Heald Green value and care for young people by providing: intentional opportunities for young people to explore the Christian faith, in a safe environment in which young people can express and explore their opinions and values, and through a variety of leisure activities and life skills for young people.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

There will be freedom for you to use your own skills and initiative, working alongside the existing leadership teams. You would be expected to develop the role according to your gifts and as new opportunities arise, but the type of responsibilities you could carry include...

1. To be a role model, setting an example of godly living to the young people; including praying regularly for our young people and sharing in the worshipping life of St Mary's, while connecting with the churches in Heald Green, and encouraging the integration of young people within the wider church families.
2. To deliver face to face youth work, modelling good practice to other leaders and ensuring compliance with necessary legislation, particularly implementing, and following safeguarding good practice in accordance with local churches' and diocesan policies.
3. To be available to young people for mentoring and support, where appropriate.
4. To engage in local secondary schools, alongside workers from other churches, fostering links in the community.
 - 4.1. Supporting lunch time Christian Unions in local schools.
 - 4.2. Supporting assemblies and lessons within local schools.
5. To build relationships with other church youth workers and explore joint initiatives to share the Christian faith and grow the faith of Christian young people.
6. To liaise with appropriate year 6 children's work to encourage a good transition into youth work.

Particularly at St Mary's...

7. Working with existing leaders to:
 - 7.1. Grow our young people towards Christian maturity, involving them in service and encouraging them in outreach
 - 7.2. Develop opportunities for the Christian faith to be shared with young people outside the church which involves the existing young people and encourages the integration of enquiring and interested young people into Christian youth work.
8. To be involved in the organisation of at least one weekend away/year and to encourage the youth to be involved in residential.
9. To support parents as they seek to encourage their young people's Christian spiritual growth.

Particularly through TAG...

10. To be responsible for the planning and delivery of the TAG ministry with young people - providing activities to enable and encourage young people to explore the Christian faith and relate it to their own lives.
11. Building relationships with those outside of the Christian faith and telling them the good news of Jesus.
12. To develop and motivate a team of volunteers to help deliver TAG youth work, promoting the work of TAG to local churches and others interested parties.

More generally...

13. To undertake relevant continuing professional development as agreed.
14. To managing budgets appropriately and maintain adequate financial records.
15. To undertake other appropriate duties as requested by / agreed with the Oversight Team.

Character

A mature Christian with a passion for God, who loves the Lord & the Gospel, with a depth of understanding of the Bible and experience of working with youth or young adults; someone who desires to serve young people and see them mature in their Christian life, within the context of the whole church; and is willing to share their life with young people, modelling Christ by growing in holiness and personal godliness through prayer life, Bible reading, authentic Christian living; and who is servant hearted, pastoral and approachable.

Person Specification

Area	Essential	Desirable
<p>Faith</p> <p>There is a Genuine Occupational Requirement* that the Youth Worker is a committed Christian.</p>	<p>Committed Christian, actively involved and in good standing, with their church and the wider Christian community.</p> <p>To be able to work with the wider churches and be supportive of the theological convictions and ethos of St Mary's, Cheadle.</p>	
<p>Experience</p>	<p>Experience of running or helping with an effective Christian youth ministry programme.</p> <p>Experience in helping young people grow in their Christian faith.</p>	<p>Experience of working with other youth agencies.</p>
<p>Qualifications</p>	<p>Able and willing to receive enhanced DBS clearance.</p>	<p>Training and Qualification in working with young people.</p>
<p>Discipleship skills</p>	<p>Ability to teach and train others to teach the Bible faithfully and accessibly</p>	<p>Training and qualification in Bible knowledge</p>
<p>Communication skills</p>	<p>A gifted and enthusiastic communicator with young people, in spoken or media means, particularly about the Christian faith.</p> <p>The ability to develop positive relationships with individuals and groups.</p>	<p>Experience of developing, training, and motivating volunteers.</p>
<p>Leadership and management</p>	<p>Self-motivated and able to motivate others.</p> <p>Good time management and organisational skills, including ability to work collaboratively</p>	<p>Experience of organizing and managing events and projects.</p>
<p>Personal attributes</p>	<p>Able to set relevant goals and to work towards them in an organized manner seeking advice about priorities when necessary.</p> <p>A caring, patient, and resilient person who can establish good relationships with a wide range of people.</p>	<p>Experience of pastoral work with young people</p>
<p>Availability</p>	<p>Willing to work in a flexible way when necessary.</p>	<p>Car driver and use of a car.</p>
<p>Confidentiality</p>	<p>Able to handle confidential matters with appropriate discretion.</p>	
<p>IT</p>	<p>Good level of competency with computers, social media, and related skills.</p>	

* Genuine Occupational Requirement: Employment Equality Regulations 2003 relating to Religion or Belief and Sexual Orientation