

# st John's

OWLERTON

## YOUTH MINISTER



## JOB PACK

*In partnership with the Centenary Project in the Diocese of Sheffield*



THE DIOCESE OF  
**SHEFFIELD**

# 30

Hours per week  
(Term-time only)

# £24,500

Pro rata  
Per annum

# 3

Year initial  
contract

Come and join our team! We are a missional, forward-thinking church with a big heart. We want to make a difference in our community, and we want our young people to help shape the future.

Working as part of a team, you will develop our current programmes and shape our ongoing work with young people in church, communities and schools.

The successful candidate will be a passionate leader of young people, helping them to become disciples of Jesus who make a difference in the world.

This position is partnered with the Centenary project in the Diocese of Sheffield. The Centenary Project provides support for many children's, youth and families' workers. More information about the support from the Centenary Project can be found further on in this pack.



## Employment Details

- The post covers the parish of St John's, Owlerton in Sheffield. However, some travel within the wider Diocese will be required.
- The post is part-time (30hrs per week to be worked during term time). Some evening and weekend work will be required.
- The role is employed and line managed by the parish but is part of the Centenary Project network.



# ABOUT ST. JOHN'S

St. John the Baptist, Owlerton, is a thriving family church situated in Hillsborough, Sheffield. There is a strong staff team, including our Oversight Ministry, SSM Curate, Contextual Ordinand, Winn Gardens Community Pioneer, Youth Minister, Families and Under 5's Minister, Digital Lead and Admin and Operations Co-Ordinator. We have also run a family support project, The Family Works, which will become a charity in its own right in January 2024. The church is committed to proclaiming and demonstrating the reality of God's Kingdom and to making disciples and leading them to become wholehearted followers of Christ.

We facilitate a wide-range of ministries across the life of the church in addition to provision for young people. These currently include a parent & toddler group, baby group, holiday clubs and regular special events for children. Our Community Pioneer leads a missional focus on the Winn Gardens estate where we host a food bank and partner with Zest ([www.zestcommunity.co.uk](http://www.zestcommunity.co.uk)) to deliver community development work.

The church is a loving and faithful community with people of every age. We are committed to mission and social action, and church members are active in a wide range of ministries.

Our new Youth Minister will be fully involved in the St. John's staff team, working to support young people in church, school and community settings.



# YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST. JOHN'S

Illuminate Youth is the name of the ministry for 11 – 18-year-olds at St. John's. For some of these young people their involvement with the church started as a member of a Christian family; others have been attracted and encouraged to join the group by friends, and come to faith through that involvement; yet others are still exploring what the Christian faith is about and whether it has any relevance to them or their life. We seek to support and care for all these young people through both the good and more challenging times of life.



There are currently a range of activities taking place which have been developed by previous workers, volunteers and young people. However, life for young people doesn't stand still and we look forward to someone joining us who will bring with them new ideas to add to the richness of what is currently on offer.

Mentoring offers our young people the chance to talk with a trusted adult(s), receive support, be listened to and prayed for, as well as being signposted to further support where needed.

Small groups offer reflective time for discussion and support, helping young people to understand and manage some of the challenges that arise in their life journeys.

Sunday morning groups allow young people both to be part of services, and therefore the larger church family, and a chance to spend time enjoying their own focused activities. This can include everything from engaging in the bible teaching arising from the service, to hearing church members' personal testimonies over a coffee at the local Dunkin'.

Larger group activities and trips take place on a regular basis. This includes a weekly youth group consisting of both active and quieter activities, the exploration of the





# YOUTH MINISTRY AT ST. JOHN'S

reality of faith through the bible and time for reflection. Recent trips have included Lazer Quest, Jump and Ten Pin Bowling. In the past few years a group of our young people have gone, with our previous Youth Worker, to a summer holiday venture. This has had a very positive impact on their individual faith journeys, and on strengthening relationships within the group.

We are keen to offer young people every opportunity to be involved in the life of the church, and we currently train and mentor young people who are actively involved as members of the band leading Sunday morning worship and in the Audio-Visual Team.

Steel City Choristers are a choir in the English Choral tradition who use the St. John's building as a base. We work with the young people as a group on a weekly basis including bible teaching and encourage them, where practical, to join us in the other activities available through Illuminate Youth.

'Youth need to be invited, included and involved before they can be influenced and impacted' – Tan Seow How

If you feel that you can be part of a team inviting, including and involving young people, then we want to hear from you. There are a tremendous group of young people and volunteers ready to welcome you so that we can all grow together in faith and reach out to others in our community.



# THE CENTENARY PROJECT

As well as being on the staff team at St John's, you will also benefit from the support of the Centenary Project and a network of youth workers from across the Diocese.

## ***What is the Centenary Project?***

The Centenary Project was set up to equip local churches, enabling them to effectively *engage, nurture* and *disciple* a new generation of children, young people and families.

The Centenary Project supports parishes and their workers to be missional in their activities, so that many more people connect with our churches, especially children and young people.

## ***How does the Centenary Project Work?***

Over the last 15 years, the trend has been that youth workers and children's workers leave their jobs for a number of reasons;

- Lack of objectives - unclear what their role is
- Poor line management - incumbents unskilled in managing staff and volunteers
- Too inward looking - not enough mission-focus
- Overworked and underpaid - feeling unappreciated and unvalued
- No support or network to draw on
- Money runs out - post not sustainable

The Centenary Project is tackling all of these issues head on, and seeing workers commit for the long-term, happy in their work, feeling supported and encouraged by the network, seeing a future in youth or children's ministry and feeling secure in their roles.

## ***How Are Centenary Project Workers Supported?***

Support for workers is essential. The help, guidance and encouragement that's continually provided to Centenary Project workers is having a huge impact on the success of youth and children's ministry across the Diocese.

The Centenary Project works with parishes, incumbents, the Diocese and other workers and team members to provide each of the following areas of support and opportunities for ongoing growth;



# YOUTH MINISTER ROLE DESCRIPTION

Job title	Youth Minister
Purpose of the role	To proclaim and demonstrate the reality of God's kingdom through the way we interact with young people at St John's and in the wider community. To build appropriate relationships with young people and their families, current and newcomers, to enable them to be encouraged and grow in their Christian faith.
General information	As an employee of St John's Church, the post holder must be willing to integrate fully into the church family. They must be an active Christian with a heart to grow the faith and discipleship of young people, committed to seeing God's kingdom grow.
Responsible to	The Parochial Church Council and the Incumbent (via a designated line manager where appropriate)
Hour per week	30 hours per week in term time (39 weeks + 1 week per year for a summer residential)
Salary	£24,500 pro rata

## Key Responsibilities:

There are four main elements to this leadership role:

### 1. To lead the St John's Youth Ministry

1.1 Co-ordinate the Youth Ministry programme for 11-18 year olds, giving consideration to the needs of the different age groups within that.

1.2 Grow and nurture our existing mentoring and discipleship programmes to engage young people with the Christian faith in innovative ways.

1.3 Establish a solid foundation to help young people come to a living faith and to mature discipleship, encouraging the exercise of their gifting, and providing pastoral care and support.

1.4 Discern the needs of particular groups and individuals, ensuring appropriate support is provided and sustainable, working towards the full inclusion of young people with special educational needs.

1.5 Produce quarterly rotas for groups well ahead of time, ensuring that adult/child ratios are adhered to in order to secure the smooth running of all youth groups on a weekly basis.

1.6 Organise residential and social activities for young people as required.

## **2. To broaden the youth outreach in the local community.**

2.1 To partner with other local projects and initiatives in planning and delivering events for young people.

2.2 Create and maintain links with local schools and colleges.

## **3. Co-ordinate and lead a team of volunteers and encourage growth in this area**

3.1 Work alongside, manage, support, nurture and value a team of volunteers.

3.2 Regularly liaise with team members to promote a shared vision.

3.3 Recruit, train and oversee new group leaders and helpers.

3.4 Liaise with the church administrative staff to ensure new and existing volunteers access appropriate safeguarding training and apply for/renew their DBS check as appropriate.

3.5 Co-ordinate and chair termly team meetings and ensure minutes are distributed.

## **4. To partner with the Diocese of Sheffield's Centenary Project**

4.1 To meet on a monthly basis with other Children's and Youth workers in the Centenary Project network.

4.2 Work towards the vision of the Centenary Project to equip the church effectively to engage, grow and disciple a new generation of young people.

4.3 As a member of the Centenary Project, set achievable objectives and record measured outcomes.

## **Other key responsibilities within the scope of the Youth Minister role:**

- To be the 'public face' of our Youth Ministry and be comfortable leading large events where necessary.
- Lead the church forward in our mission to reach young people.
- Input into the church vision and work alongside the Vicar and church leadership through membership of the staff team including attendance at team meetings and other key church meetings.
- Have a sound working knowledge of current Safeguarding legislation and the practical requirements of that legislation.
- Maintain confidentiality at all times within safeguarding guidelines.
- Provide Risk Assessments for youth work activities in line with insurance, health and safety and safeguarding guidance.



- Strict adherence to all church policies and procedures.
- Nurture and encourage positive relationships among the Youth Ministry team, the staff team and the church leadership team.
- Working collaboratively with other staff members and ministry leaders to ensure good continuity and transition across ministry areas.
- Possess good time management skills to ensure all groups and events are set up and appropriate arrangements made in good time.
- Accurate record keeping in relation to children attending groups and events, including attainment of consent forms. Adherence to current data protection legislation is mandatory.
- Oversee the budget for your ministry area, organising the purchase of ministry resources and supplies and maintain records of all expenditure.
- Ensure that groups leave all rooms tidy, and that relevant noticeboards and displays are maintained.
- To actively join with others in the staff team in identifying and making applications for grants.
- Such other duties as may reasonably be required commensurate with the responsibilities of the post.

- Statutory annual leave applies.
- The nature of the role means that it is a genuine occupational requirement for the post-holder to be a Christian.
- Appointments will be subject to references and a DBS check.

# YOUTH MINISTER PERSON SPECIFICATION

<b>Skills, Knowledge and Experience</b>	<b>Essential or Desirable</b>
A committed Christian, someone who loves God and loves people.	E
Able to be a strong Christian role model.	E
Able to speak with sincerity about the Christian faith in an informed, effective and non-judgmental way.	E
Excellent skills in direct work with young people and their families.	E
Previous experience of working with young people from a variety of backgrounds.	E
A solid understanding of good safeguarding practice, and the willingness to work within our policies and procedures.	E
Experience of supporting people who experience a range of challenges in life and signposting to additional support where necessary.	E
A clear understanding of young people and principles of youth work.	E
Experience of leading/facilitating groups.	E
Able to motivate self and others, and to manage own time.	E
Strong organisational skills including working to deadlines.	E
Good team working skills, including the capacity to identify the gifts of others.	E
Good interpersonal skills – an ability to make effective working relationships.	E
Excellent written and verbal communication skills.	E
Good IT skills.	E
Willingness to become an active member of the St. John's Church family.	E
Previous experience of working in a local church context	D
Previous experience of working with young people in schools.	D
Able to set and work to goals without direct supervision.	D
Experience of recruiting, training and supporting volunteers.	D
Educated to degree/foundation degree level or equivalent.	D
Basic understanding of mental health issues.	D
Basic understanding of Special Educational Needs.	D
Full drivers license and access to a vehicle.	D
To actively join with others in the staff team in identifying and making applications for grants	D
Relevant qualification (Theology / Youth or Children's Work / Community Development)	D

# APPLICATION INFORMATION

**Closing Date:** 25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**Interview Date:** 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024

For an application form for this role, please contact:

Claire Keppas (Admin and Operations Lead)

Email: [claire@stjb.org.uk](mailto:claire@stjb.org.uk)

To speak to someone about the role, please contact:

Revd Joy French, Oversight Minister – [joy@stjb.org.uk](mailto:joy@stjb.org.uk) (from 7<sup>th</sup> January)

Katie Kerr, Churchwarden - [katie@stjb.org.uk](mailto:katie@stjb.org.uk)

For more information about the Centenary Project, please contact:

Dave Ludbrook - [dave.ludbrook@centenaryproject.org.uk](mailto:dave.ludbrook@centenaryproject.org.uk)

Website: [www.centenaryproject.org.uk](http://www.centenaryproject.org.uk)