

## CHAPLAINCY PROFILE

The Anglican chaplaincy at the University of Sheffield has a history going back to at least 1959. For 60 years stipendiary clergy of the Diocese of Sheffield served either full-time or part-time as chaplains to the university, alongside Methodist, Roman Catholic and URC leaders. In 1974 an ecumenical agreement was established (and continues) between the respective chaplaincies, which all operated off-campus. Last century there was a student run Anglican society, and this has just been revived during academic year 2024–25.

In 2001 the University of Sheffield, in conjunction with the ecumenical Christian chaplains founded a Multi-faith Chaplaincy, with associate chaplains and advisors representing many world religions was established, with a wide range of members of the Chaplaincy staff team. Anglican chaplaincy activity happened both on and off campus from this point.

In 2008 an Anglican Chaplaincy Trust was established as a charity, so it was possible to raise funding and employ Outreach workers and, at times, licensed ministers in addition to the Anglican chaplain. The Anglican Chaplaincy Trust (University of Sheffield) has been involved in the appointment of the final stipendiary Anglican chaplain (Jeremy Clines 2010–2019) and the first self-supporting ordained minister, Sabine Tenge-Heslop (2021–2024). The Trust is now in a position, in conjunction with the Diocese of Sheffield and the University of Sheffield to appoint a new self-supporting ordained minister as Anglican chaplain.

From 2010–19 further religion/belief identities began to be added to the Centre's staff team, the university started directly funding a part-time Muslim chaplain role. Anglican chaplaincy activity became more focussed towards being on campus.

During a period of financial constraints among Christian denominations around 2018 to 2019, funded roles were terminated by three denominations who had each been providing full-time chaplains. The university—in response to this loss of externally funded denominational chaplains—established the employed role of coordinating chaplain for the Centre, this role is currently held by a licensed CofE priest, Jeremy Clines.

In 2022 the Centre was renamed as the Belief, No Belief and Religious (BNBR) Life Centre to reflect that the Centre serves staff and students whether or not they have a religion or belief identity, and also for those who identify as being part of religion/belief community while also not being observant / practising and so on. The [BNBR Life Centre](#) is an umbrella centre with eleven (or more) distinct chaplaincies within it, including three Christian chaplaincies: a Free Church and Anglican chaplaincy, a Roman Catholic chaplaincy, and a Christian Orthodox chaplaincy with a variety of ways people [join the team](#).

Some of the news about Anglican ministry at the university is reported on in its annual magazine 'Cutting Edge'. Past issues of Cutting Edge can be viewed here: [2021](#), [2022-23](#). Current team members contributing to the Anglican Chaplaincy work are: [Rob Barnett](#) (support worker), [Jeremy Clines](#) (coordinating chaplain), [Tamara Hervey](#) (Anglican/Catholic advisor), [Shelley Johnston](#) (Lay Anglican associate chaplain). Free Church and Anglican worship happens 4 or more times a week and is titled 'Gritstone and God'.

## BISHOP'S STATEMENT

Dear friend,

For several reasons, 2025 feels like the start of a new chapter in the life of the Diocese of Sheffield.

First, it is the year in which we launch the refreshed version of our Diocesan Strategy, by which we seek to be 'renewed, released and rejuvenated, by God's grace and in Christ's service. The original seven-year strategy, launched in 2018, has served us well and (despite the very real ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic) there has been much fruitfulness in that time for which to give thanks to God: a new prayer community developed, new ministries begun, new congregations formed. A Diocesan-wide consultation over the refreshing of the strategy gave a clear message: increase the emphasis on seeking the welfare of local communities, of our neighbours and neighbourhoods, but retain the 3Rs and the Diocesan Vision Prayer. This we have sought to do.



Secondly, it is the year in which the Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board responded generously to our partnership funding request, committing £17.5 million for investment in the revitalisation of our Diocese with immediate effect and in principle committing a further £18.5 million for the period 2028-2031. We are hugely grateful for this resource and for all the exciting potential it brings, as we continue to seek to see the whole people of God mobilised in the whole mission of God, and every baptised person enabled to enter into the full dignity of their baptismal vocation to shine as a Light for Christ in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Thirdly, it is the year in which we will welcome a new Bishop of Doncaster and a new Archdeacon of Sheffield and Rotherham into post, to bring fresh energy and perspectives to the Bishop's Senior Staff Team.

In this context, the appointment of a self-supporting ordained minister as the part-time Anglican Chaplain at the University of Sheffield's Belief, No Belief and Religious Life Centre, to serve in the Free Church and Anglican chaplaincy in the Hallam deanery is all the more important. We seek a priest who desires to be present and engaged in Christian service, among the 8,000 staff, the 27,000 students.

In this Gospel adventure for the sake of the coming kingdom of God, the leadership of a priest in a secular setting representing the church to the world and the world to church is going to be vital. It will require someone who is able to exercise an enabling oversight, with a passion for teamwork, for developing leaders and for empowering the whole people of God for the whole mission of God. It will require someone able to bear witness to the image of God in all the people in university community, including the colleagues of many identities at the Centre and someone who understands that overseeing the ministry of the body of Christ does not mean doing everything personally, but releasing the gifts and ministries of others.

We are praying that the Lord will bring to us a person with a strong sense of vocation to this task at this time; a person of faith and hope and love in God; a person who laughs easily and has a zest for life in Christ; a person with a sense of adventure, unafraid of failure and reliant on the grace of the Holy Spirit. If that might be you, we would love to explore with you the possibility that the Lord is calling you to this role.

With every blessing

*+ Pete Sheffield*

The Rt Revd Dr Pete Wilcox  
Bishop of Sheffield



## THE DIOCESE OF SHEFFIELD

### JOB DESCRIPTION

<b>JOB TITLE:</b>	Anglican Chaplain (self-supporting ordained minister)
<b>RESPONSIBLE TO:</b>	Coordinating Chaplain
<b>ACCOUNTABLE TO:</b>	The Archdeacon of Doncaster / Anglican Chaplaincy Trust Chair
<b>REQUIREMENTS:</b>	i) University and Diocese Enhanced DBS ii) Completion of University and Diocesan safeguarding training

*The Diocese of Sheffield is called to grow a diverse network of Christ-like, lively and sustainable Christian communities in every place which are effective in making disciples and in seeking to transform our society and God's world.*

This role will suit an ordained person who will appreciate serving in a higher education setting, among staff and students.

This rare opportunity is based at a particularly international and diverse university. The role is one of service within a wider ecumenical Christian ministry among 30,000 students and 8,000 staff, alongside more than eleven distinct chaplaincies at the university's Belief, No Belief and Religious (BNBR) Life Centre.

The role-holder will become an associate university staff member, and benefit from being part of a progressive learning and research university and have expenses renumarated.

Connection with the Diocese of Sheffield will include participation in relevant training and development, joining the chaplains' network, the local deanery chapter and holding the bishop's licence.

For an informal conversation please contact Coordinating Chaplain, Revd Dr Jeremy Clines [j.clines@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:j.clines@sheffield.ac.uk).

[Further information on joining the BNBR Life Centre team.](#)

**Closing date:** Midday, 25 June 2025

**Interviews:** 9am – 1pm, 10 July 2025

## **JOB PURPOSE**

### **Engage**

To be active as a collaborative Christian leader providing a ministry of hospitality and welcome. Christian ministry for staff and students is provided within three closely aligned Christian chaplaincies, The Free Church and Anglican chaplaincy, The Roman Catholic chaplaincy and the Christian Orthodox chaplaincy. These chaplaincies sit among more than eleven religion and belief chaplaincies, at the BNBR Life Centre providing service to people of any religion or belief perspective and no belief.

### **Educate**

To prioritize the strategic development of Free Church and Anglican Christian activities of the BNBR Life Centre. This will include, as a key aim, discerning the best ways to sustain and initiate social and residential activities, study groups and spiritual development initiatives. The objectives will be to help many students and staff to think about how they can develop their spirituality, and connect their intellectual and working life with their believing and belonging.

### **Nurture**

To take a lead in offering a cure of souls at the university as an act of practical theology.

The work involves enabling staff and students to use a variety of methods to develop their own thinking, practice and spirituality: being particularly attentive to enabling students to explore their journeys of faith, belief and no belief and to support those wanting to live in a Christian way. This will include responding to sudden pastoral needs/crises and offering individual pastoral care to staff and students.

## **JOB DIMENSIONS**

(may include but all there is scope for variance)

**Provide opportunities**—within the bishop's licence to offer a 'cure of souls'—for students and staff, to grow in faith by the following actions:

- Give time to one-to-one support of staff and students: face to face and online;
- Help sustain BNBR Life Centre group activities for students and staff;
- Contribute to the design, planning and advertising of a year-round programme of varied activities for students;
- Encourage international/postgraduate students to join in with BNBR Life Centre activities;
- Help plan and lead residential activities and other trips or one-off occasions.

and additionally:

- Shape larger scale events such as the University Carol Service;
- Supporting ecumenical working and community engagement between religions and beliefs;
- Support and develop partnerships with other university services and Students' Union;
- Give one-to-one pastoral care to students and staff in crisis and respond to sudden pastoral needs within the university.

**Share in the Christian ministry at the BNBR Life Centre** by:

- Welcoming visitors;
- Responding to general and more specific enquiries;
- Shaping and sharing in the pattern of worship;
- Working with BNBR Life Centre team members to co-ordinate the centre's activities;
- Liaising with student groups and societies on campus;
- play a collegial part in the coordinating team;
- identifying the effective ways of engaging diverse audiences about a specialist area of knowledge (i.e. religion and belief, Christian theology, Anglicanism);
- taking a lead in the area of equalities / intersectionality and religion and belief.

**Support your own personal and spiritual development** by:

- Planning study relevant to the work that is being done;
- Maintaining a personal discipline in prayer and discipleship, including retreat;
- Attending regular supervision and having a spiritual accompanier /companion;
- Undertaking training provided by the university and diocese.

**Contribute to the operational effectiveness of the BNBR Life Centre** by:

- Participating in the wider outreach work of the department;
- Attending staff meetings and participating in Away Days;
- Following university policies and procedures on campus;
- Understanding the strategic aims of the university;
- Taking responsibility for the health and safety of self and others;
- Accuracy in record keeping especially in relation to working hours and expenses;
- Attending and (on a rota) chairing staff meetings;
- With the Centre core team planning and delivering Away Days.

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

1. The appointment comes with the need to commit to serve for 0.4 f.t.e. (2 days per week) with the recommendation to work no more than 0.6 f.t.e. (i.e. between 15 to 22.5 hours per week), unless by prior negotiation. The self-supporting role also comes with the need to take a minimum amount of 30 days holiday and 8 bank holidays plus 3 closure days (calculated pro rata) and also larger amounts of leave (and study leave or sabbatical time) greater than this can be accommodated for with good notice, especially outside of university semester periods.
2. The Anglican Chaplain will receive an Associate Staff Ucard, will have access to telephone, office facilities and a staff login to the University's intranet including an email account.
3. Time off will be allowed in lieu and flexible working can be negotiated.
4. The Coordinating Chaplain will provide support, advice and where relevant mentoring.
5. The Anglican Chaplain will report for their work to the Anglican Chaplaincy Trust and to the Archdeacon of Doncaster.
6. The appointed person must hold a bishop's licence.
7. Approved expenses incurred in the course of employment will be reimbursed.

**This post is subject to enhanced DBS disclosure both with the University and Diocese.**

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

CATEGORY	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
<b>Qualifications &amp; Training</b>	<p>University Graduate.</p> <p>Significant training and/or experience in Christian ministry and / or pastoral care or Christian leadership.</p> <p>Ordination or equivalent as a Christian minister of religion.</p> <p>Enthusiasm for working flexibly, and in a changing environment outside the parish system.</p>	
<b>Skills &amp; Knowledge</b>	<p>Ability to articulate and express a lively faith, which is thoughtful, generous and compelling.</p> <p>Aptitude in exercising Christian leadership.</p> <p>Excellent pastoral, communication and personal skills.</p> <p>Ability to shape, develop and manage projects.</p> <p>Computer literate.</p> <p>Knowledge and understanding of HE Chaplaincy.</p> <p>Ability to work effectively within a team and by self.</p>	<p>Experience of work in the voluntary sector.</p> <p>Experience of work students.</p> <p>Experience of work within a large organisation / workplace.</p> <p>Knowledge and Understanding of ecumenical and inter-religious issues.</p> <p>Significant experience of pastoral care.</p> <p>Experience of leadership in a church or chaplaincy setting.</p> <p>Confidence in working with young adults and students.</p>
<b>Other Factors</b>	<p>A practising Anglican.</p> <p>A natural empathy with and understanding of the student and staff experience.</p> <p>A strong desire to exercise leadership so as to help people mature in their faith or find Christian faith.</p> <p>A confidence to allow believing, belonging and faith to be nourished both when in a secular environment and also by making space to be equipped in a place at times far-distant from the church.</p>	

This post is subject to a “Genuine Occupational Requirement” under the Employment Equality Regulations (2003).