

**The Young Leaders' Community (YLC) is part of the Church of England, Diocese of Sheffield,** facilitated by Rachel Baker, Young Leaders' Community Enabler. Rachel can be contacted on [rachel.baker@sheffield.anglican.org](mailto:rachel.baker@sheffield.anglican.org)

You can find information about the Diocese on - [www.sheffield.anglican.org](http://www.sheffield.anglican.org)

**The YLC is for young people aged 10-18 from churches across the diocese who want to grow in leadership and responsibility in their local church communities and across the wider diocese. Members will have at least one adult leader from their local church to support, encourage and mentor them, and provide opportunities for them to grow.**

We believe God speaks through young people and we value their contributions and leadership. Our Bishops are eager to see Christian young people speaking boldly, bringing their insight and perspective to leadership and decision-making, and their creativity to mission and ministry throughout our diocese. We aim to relate with non-Anglican leaders in working together for the sake of our young people and their sense of ownership in the Church.

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership is free, and available to 10-18 year old Christians from within Sheffield Diocese (largely South Yorkshire) irrespective of denomination. Young people from non-Anglican churches will be encouraged to grow in opportunities made available within their own denomination and may also engage in Anglican opportunities if leaders and parents permit.

The Young Leaders' Community is an inclusive space for young people from all Christian traditions to listen and learn from each other, and to demonstrate Christian unity across our different beliefs and traditions. Our values of love, patience, understanding and an openness to learn will guide us to growing together despite difference.

Members of the YLC across the diocese will meet together occasionally (for training, discipleship, planning and friendship) in different places and online.

## **LOCAL CHURCH**

Members of the YLC will be encouraged by local leaders of the church to take on leadership opportunities in their local church. This could include:

- speaking, reading, welcoming, praying and leading etc. in services
- involvement in decision-making processes in the church and
- initiating new mission and ministry activity with proper support, training and resources.

From the age of 16, young people can join the electoral roll and be voted on to the PCC to influence, shape and contribute to the mission and ministry of the church. Children and young people can be invited to attend church leadership meetings to be heard and valued for their contributions. Likewise, church leaders should seek out the voices of the children by creating opportunities where they can attend the children's or youth group and hear their thoughts and ideas. Care should be taken that this 'listening' is not tokenistic or hollow, but leads to real change in the church.

## DIOCESE

Members of the YLC will have diocesan opportunities made available by central diocesan staff, for example, leading at Breathe Deep (our annual youth event), shaping training that clergy receive, producing media, leading workshops at Development Day, working with the Diocesan Advisers on key areas (disability, racial justice, LGBTQI+) and working with our Bishops and senior staff on strategy, vision and funding decisions. The YLC will help to change the culture of the diocese by putting children and young people at the heart of all our mission and ministry. The members will also be encouraged to create new initiatives which they take a lead in, supported and resourced by diocesan central staff with appropriate safeguarding and risk management in place.

More information about the Young Leaders' Community is available at: [www.sheffdio.org/ylc](http://www.sheffdio.org/ylc)

## USING THE SPOND APP

Communication with young people will be done using the Spond app. All young people will have a youth leader connected to them on the app, enabling the youth leader to see all the comments they make. It is not possible for children under 18 to send or receive private or direct messages for safeguarding purposes. For children aged between 10-12, a parent or carer must also be connected to the child in the app to provide an extra level of appropriate safeguarding. The parent or carer will be able to see any comments their child makes in the app, but is encouraged not to join in the conversation, but to alert Rachel Baker ([rachel.baker@sheffield.anglican.org](mailto:rachel.baker@sheffield.anglican.org)) and/or Mike North ([mike.north@sheffield.anglican.org](mailto:mike.north@sheffield.anglican.org)) if there are any concerns. They act as administrators and safeguarding representatives for the YLC app.

Communicating through Spond is safer and more compliant with our safeguarding policies than using email or text messages, which is why we have chosen to use it to communicate with the YLC. If, for whatever reason, you don't wish to use the Spond app on a mobile phone, it can be used on a web browser, and notifications can be set up to be received via email.

Please complete the form below and confirm your consent by signing the relevant sections. You can withdraw or change your consent regarding communication at any time by contacting Rachel Baker.

You can find out more about how we use your personal data by reading the privacy notice which you can find on the Diocese website.

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# YOUNG LEADERS' COMMUNITY - REGISTRATION & CONSENT FORM

## Young person's details:

**Name** .....

**Date of birth** .....

**Address** .....

**Today's date** .....

**Named youth leader(s)** .....

(must be 'Safer Recruited' and DBS checked in line with diocesan safeguarding guidelines.)

**Name of the local church they attend** .....

**Please provide details of any medical conditions or disability which may affect participation**

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**Does the young person suffer from any allergies?** YES  NO

**If Yes, please specify**.....

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## Medication

Please provide details of any medication required during the activities of the YLC. This should be clearly labelled and handed to the leader responsible at the beginning of the activity. If the parent /carer wishes the medication to be administered by the leader, please discuss with the leader and specify in writing the time(s) and dosage required.

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## Emergencies:

In an emergency and / or if I am not contactable, I give my permission for the participant to receive any necessary dental, medical or surgical treatment, including anaesthetic.

**Signed** ..... **Printed** .....

*Please turn over...*

Please provide details of a parent or guardian who we can contact in case of emergency. In addition to this, please provide details of a second emergency contact who is over 18.

**Emergency Contact 1:  
Name**

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**Contact Number(s)**

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**Relationship to young person**

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**Emergency Contact 2:  
Name**

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**Contact Number(s)**

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**Relationship to young person**

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**Parent / Guardian Consent:**

- I give permission for my child (named above) to be a member and attend meetings of the YLC.
- I give consent for my child to be in photographs and videos, which may be used for publicity, including on social media across the Diocese of Sheffield. (Over 13 year olds can give their own consent for this, below.) YES  NO
- I consent to my child using **Spond** to communicate with other members of the YLC and with leaders and senior staff in the diocese, through group chats. (Please see the separate policy / code of conduct for using Spond.)
- I acknowledge that if there are any changes to the details on this form I will inform the Young Leaders' Community Enabler as soon as possible so that information can be kept up to date.

**Signed**..... **Printed**.....

**Your privacy is important to us** and we would like to communicate with you about the YLC and its activities. This can be done either by email or text. Please indicate below how you would like to hear from us by providing us with either email or mobile number or both:

**Email**..... **Text (mobile number)**.....

**Young Person Consent:**

- I would like to use **Spond** to connect with other members of the YLC and with leaders and senior staff in the diocese, through group chats. (Please provide your mobile number and/or email address below and see the separate policy / code of conduct for using Spond.)
- **For 13 year olds and older:** I give my consent to be in photographs and videos, which may be used for publicity and news about the Young Leaders' Community, including on social media across the Diocese of Sheffield.  
YES  NO  I AM UNDER 13

**Signed**..... **Printed**.....

**Mobile number**..... **Email**.....

A copy of this consent form will be kept by your local church leadership and also at Diocesan Church House.