

TRINITY CHURCH CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORKER APPLICATION

Background

Trinity Church started in 2003 as a church plant from St Leonards Church, Exeter. The church moved to its current location, Clyst Heath Primary School, in 2005 and in May 2013 became a recognised Church of England Parish.

The current parish covers the areas of Clyst Heath, Kings Heath and Newcourt in the east of Exeter. This area is a relatively new development with houses first being built in the late 1990s on the site of the old Digby Hospital with on-going building in the Newcourt area. In total there are approximately 2,300 houses within the parish, expanding to approximately 5,000 over the next few years.

Within the parish there is currently one primary school (Clyst Heath), with plans for a second primary school (Trinity, Church of England VA) to be built and to start enrolling students in September 2017.

Trinity Church is blessed with a large number of children and young people as members. Their needs are met on a Sunday through a number of groups running alongside the adult church, except for the first Sunday of the month, where the whole church family stays together for an all-age service:

Group	School Years	Number of children registered	Number of regular attenders
Stars	Preschool	17	14
Sparks	Reception to Year 2	29	26
Ignite	Year 3 to 5	27	22
Explode	Year 6 to 8	26	16
Impact	Year 9+	9	6

As well as meeting the needs of our church children and young people, Trinity runs a regular weekly children's group, K@tch, meeting every Tuesday evening in term time. There is an 8-strong team of volunteers who run the club for years 3-6. There are up to 50 local children who come along. Although the group is predominantly social, there is a short teaching slot included each week.

There is also a number of annual activities within the church that involve the children. These include:

- Xcite holiday club, held each year in the first week of the summer holidays and attended by over 100 church and non-church children.
- The church weekend away, held in late winter / early spring. Primary school aged children have their own teaching programme that runs parallel to the adult teaching.
- Sundays in Summer – during the school summer holidays, there is a break from the normal children's and young people's teaching programme when their teaching is delivered in a larger single group, often by members of the church family not involved in our term time children's and youth work.

Our children's and youth work is currently delivered by a team of volunteers with operational support from the group leads and strategic support being provided by the Children's and Youth Work subcommittee.

We are thankful to God for being gifted with so many children and young people within our church; at the same time we are acutely aware of the responsibility that comes with this – not only to those within our church family but also to those within our parish who we have been called to serve. As such, we are looking for an inspiring and motivated individual to join our team and serve those children and young people entrusted to us.

JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE POST OF CHILDREN'S AND YOUTH WORKER FOR TRINITY CHURCH EXETER

Job title: Children's and Youth Worker

Responsible to: Parish Vicar

Hours of work: 20 hours (Initial 2-year contract)

Job Purposes:

- To lead the serving of the children and young people of Trinity Church and those unchurched children within the parish
- To work closely with the Children's and Youth Work subcommittee, the established team of volunteers and church leadership to bring children into relationship with Jesus Christ
- To enable children to develop and strengthen their faith and to be effective disciples of Jesus within the life of the church and the parish community.

Main Responsibilities:

- 1 Strategic Overview of Children's and Youth Work
 - To chair the Children's and Youth Work subcommittee
 - To assess current children's and young people's work and identify areas of improvement.
 - To drive any change needed to bring about that improvement.
 - To develop ways of integrating the children and young people within the wider life of the church.
 - To enable the young people and children to develop as disciples and Christian leaders.
 - To explore the possibility of establishing new projects to serve both church and non-church children and young people.
 - To explore ways in which the church can serve children who will attend the new school.
- 2 To have oversight of the volunteer team
 - Working with the group leads, to ensure we have an adequately staffed volunteer team.
 - Ensure the team are safe, supported, impassioned and able to meet the needs of the young people they serve.
 - Working with the safeguarding lead to ensure our volunteers are appropriate for the work they are undertaking.
 - Identify learning needs and arrange or signpost to appropriate training.
- 3 Administration
 - Working with the group leads to ensure teaching material, equipment and facilities are available and appropriate.
 - To provide regular (3 monthly) reports to the PCC on Trinity's children's and youth work.

- 4 Direct children's and youth work
 - To be directly involved in working with the young people, having the flexibility to concentrate on areas or age groups identified by the post holder as a priority.
 - To seek opportunities to develop and build relationships with the children and young people.

- 5 Co-ordination of annual church events including The Xcite Holiday Club.
 - The Sundays in Summer programme.
 - The children's teaching at the church weekend away.

Relationships: The Children's and Youth Worker will be line-managed by the Parish Vicar. They will work closely with the other members of the Children's and Youth Work subcommittee who will provide on-going support along with an already established team of volunteers which includes group leads, the safeguarding officer, the health and safety officer and the church wardens.

Environment: The nature of the job will require some evening and weekend work. The successful applicant would be expected to be an active member of the congregation at Trinity Church.

The above list of duties is not exclusive or exhaustive and the post holder will be required to undertake such tasks as may reasonably be expected within the scope of the post.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Requirement	Essential	Desirable
Proven Ability	Substantial experience of working with children and/or young people	Experience working in a church environment reporting to a vicar or church minister
Qualifications	A relevant youth work qualification or equivalent relevant experience demonstrated in a portfolio of evidence	A relevant theological/bible college qualification or evidence of theological / biblical training
Qualities and Attributes	<p>Belief in Jesus Christ as the one true Saviour and His act of redemption on the cross.</p> <p>Commitment to follow Jesus Christ and a passion for sharing the Christian faith and discipling children and young people in faith.</p> <p>Belief in the Bible as the inerrant word of God and a desire to see it taught and followed.</p> <p>Strong interpersonal skills, adaptable communication style, including confidence and ability to speak to children and young people</p> <p>Good organisational skills</p> <p>Able to identify skills and talents in volunteers and young people, and delegating roles to them accordingly</p> <p>Able to work independently and as part of a team</p> <p>Able to engage with the wider church</p>	
Special Knowledge and Skills	<p>Awareness of issues relating to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults</p> <p>Relevant ICT skills to aid communication</p>	

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Salary: £32,760(Pro rata) - Actual Salary for 20 hours £16,380 Per Annum

Hours of work: 20 hours. The post requires a degree of flexibility regarding the working hours; further flexibility can be offered to accommodate external and personal commitments of the employee subject to agreement. There will be the need to work some evenings and weekends.

Accommodation: Not provided

Paid Leave Entitlement: 4 weeks + bank holidays (Pro rata)

Sick Pay Provision: Trinity Church operates the Statutory Sick Pay Scheme

Pension Entitlement: A pension scheme will be offered in line with current legislation and Church of England practice

Notice: One calendar month's notice of termination is required on either side

Conditions of appointment: It is our policy to check all staff, paid and unpaid, for suitability to work with children and young people. We will undertake an enhanced DBS check and ask for References; one of the referees must be your current or most recent employer.