



## **Youth Worker St Andrew's Bedford**



*A part time post 17.5 hours per week*

### **The Role**

The Youth Worker will work with the Children and Families' Minister and the voluntary team in working with young people at St Andrew's, and engaging with those in the wider community. We want you to be able to use your own ideas and experience to help shape of our ministry with young people at St Andrew's.

### **Context**

St Andrew's is an Anglican Church close to the town centre of Bedford. We are an inclusive, all age community in a liberal catholic tradition. The parish we serve is primarily residential and the Church Centre provides a focal point for various community activities. Approximately 120 adults and 25 children regularly attend our main Sunday morning service, with many more families joining us for our Youth Group (Toastie Club), Messy Church, Toddler Group and other occasional events.

Our full-time paid staff members are the Vicar and Operations Manager. Part time staff positions are held by our Children and Families' Minister, Administrative Assistant, Director of Music, Verger, Caretaker and Cleaner. Additional ministry is provided to the church by volunteers including the Churchwardens, assistant Priests and children and youth ministry volunteers. We are looking to appoint a part time Youth Worker to develop our youth provision, and encourage the discipleship of the young people within our Church and beyond.

At St Andrew's we believe that children and young people are vital members of the Body of Christ, fully alive to God and gifted by God. We therefore aim to create opportunities for our young people, to meet with God, to reflect on what those experiences mean within our Christian faith, and to become leaders within the Church.

### **What St Andrew's offers**

- a thriving, well-resourced Church with dedicated teams of volunteers in children and youth ministry
- an experienced and inspirational Children and Families' Minister, who will offer support and regular supervision
- well established programmes of ministry with children and young people, including a youth group, Sunday morning groups, and trebles in the choir
- opportunity to work closely with a wider team of paid staff, volunteers and clergy
- an attractive building in a central location with a large suite of rooms available for work with children and young people
- a large Church office with a desk, computer and mobile phone available for the successful candidate
- a congregation with a long track record of supporting work with children and young people; practically, financially and through prayer
- encouragement to access training, conferences and Diocesan support networks
- support in discerning future ministry and vocation, if appropriate

## Role description

There is some scope to tailor the role to the skills and passions of the successful candidate, particularly as we explore how we can continue to develop our ministry with young people.

If the successful candidate would prefer fewer hours, this may also be negotiable.

Under the 2010 Equality Act, schedule 9, there is a Genuine Occupational Requirement that the holder of this post is a practising Christian.

### Core responsibilities:

- Responsible for our youth group 'Toastie Club' (for ages 10-15). This group currently meets twice a month on Sunday evenings, 17.30-19.00.
  - Planning and leading sessions, preparing and sharing resources
  - Organising trips or residentials
  - Leading a team of youth ministry volunteers (for Toastie Club and wider youth ministry)
  - Exploring how we might develop provision for our older young people (aged 15-18)
- Leading our oldest Sunday morning group (aged c.10-15), working with our team of leaders and volunteers (2-3 times a month)
  - Leading sessions approx. twice a month
  - Preparing materials and resources
  - Helping our young people to lead worship – on Sunday mornings and at other times.
- Building relationships with and between our young people
  - Pastoral support and/or mentoring for individual young people, including messages and 1:1 meetings (ongoing)
  - Maintaining contact with parents/carers of young people, individually and through regular emails (ongoing)
  - Helping to build relationships between our young people, and continuing to integrate our young people as members of the congregation, including supporting them to take on roles in the church (ongoing)
- Helping to keep our young people safe
  - Following St Andrew's policies and processes – e.g. obtaining permission forms, keeping registers and writing risk assessments (ongoing)
  - Meeting safeguarding responsibilities, including keeping safeguarding training up to date, recruiting volunteers safely and reporting any concerns to the Parish Safeguarding Officer (ongoing)
- Wider responsibilities to support our ministry with Young People
  - Working with the Vicar and Children and Families' Minister to continue to develop the vision and strategy for our ministry with young people (termly)
  - Undertaking administrative tasks required for the role, e.g. maintaining a contact database and creating publicity materials (ongoing)
  - Attending staff meetings (once a month)

- Creating an engaging social media presence for young people to increase our reach online (ongoing)
- Beginning to explore a form of 'drop in' or detached youth work
  - Considering how we might best support young people in our local community with consideration of the candidate's own gifts, skills and interests.
  - Building a team of volunteers to help lead this work

## **Location and Hours**

The Youth Worker has desk space in the Church Centre Office of St Andrew's Church, MK40 2PF. The role is part time at 17.5 hours a week. Working hours are flexible but must include most Sundays.

## **Terms and Conditions**

The detailed terms and conditions will be contained in the post holder's Contract of Employment. Annual paid holiday entitlement is 28 working days including Bank Holidays, per annum pro-rata. Leave should be arranged in advance with the Children and Families' Minister.

The line manager for the role will be the Children and Families' Minister, Elisabeth Sutcliffe.

The rate of pay for 17.5 hours per week is £11,820 to £13,128 per annum depending on experience, paid monthly by BACS. Remuneration will be reviewed annually in January. Overtime is not normally available.

Appointment will be subject to enhanced DBS clearance and compliance with the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996.

For an informal discussion about this post, you may like to speak to the Children and Families' Minister on [childrensminister@standrewsbedford.org](mailto:childrensminister@standrewsbedford.org) or come and visit us on a Sunday morning.

More details from [www.standrewsbedford.org](http://www.standrewsbedford.org) or by email from Kelly Agler Good [operationsmanager@standrewsbedford.org](mailto:operationsmanager@standrewsbedford.org)