



St Andrew's Bedford Mission Action Plan October 2025

Areas for Development	Aims	Action	Who (Lead)	Time Scale
Worship <i>Loving God through praise and prayer</i>	Nurturing contributions to worship which reflect the rich mix of people present within the Church family today, including age, ethnicity, disability and gender.	To intentionally invite diversity among contributors to worship including planning groups, readers, intercessors, servers, sidespeople, choir members, musicians, offertory procession and Gospel procession, AV, sound desk	Vicar, Church Wardens, Verger, rota organisers, All Age planning team	Ongoing
	Ensure our acts of worship are increasingly inclusive and transformative.	Choose a new hymn book to update our repertoire and ensure use of more inclusive language	Working Group	Spring 2026
Fellowship <i>Welcoming radically: encouraging contribution and embracing diversity</i>	To express God's love and build community through hospitality and welcome	Events and occasions which offer food, company and hospitality to the local community		??
	Events which encourage members of the Church and wider community to work together and deepen relationships.	For example: Green Fair, Charity events like the Christian Aid Big Brekkie, Crib festival		??
	Review the impact of our whole range of activities in terms of equality, diversity and inclusion.	To review and improve accessibility of our buildings, including doors, steps and toilets.	Working Group CCMC	January 2028
Discipleship <i>Growing as God's family, developing as followers of Jesus</i>	Enable our children and young people to grow in spirituality, understanding and confidence in their faith	Employ a part time paid Youth Worker	Standing Committee, Children and Families' Minister, Young People, Toastie Club leaders	January 2026
		Develop a regular discipleship group for primary age children outside Sunday mornings	Children and Families' Minister, Children's Worker, Vicar, Young People	September 2025
	Encourage a culture where people are enabled to offer their gifts and ministries, inside and outside church	Whole Church family exercise, with individuals sharing what they do inside and outside Church as an expression of their faith.	Working Group	September 2026
	Growing in our spirituality and understanding of faith.	To develop small groups (home groups / discipleship groups / enquirer courses)	Vicar to gather a group of interested people to plan how to move forward	Summer 2025

Kinship <i>Engaging deeply with the local and global community; seeking justice and establishing peace</i>	To engage more deeply with our Charity Partners	Develop a group of 'champions' for each charity, including young people.	MOT	Summer 2025
	To develop a process for understanding our place in the community, how we listen and respond	Hold a series of evening sessions to explore the theology and practical outworking of kinship.	MOT, Vicar	Autumn 2025
	To connect to stakeholders in the local community to begin to understand need	Input from Bedford-based organisations and portfolio holders, eg local counsellors, Bedford Giving	Community Champions	January 2026
Stewardship <i>Caring for God's creation, and using our resources courageously</i>	To work towards becoming net zero Carbon by 2030	Develop a 'boiler funeral plan' so that when we need to replace the gas boilers we have already put stages in place for a heat pump	Creation Care Steering Group CCMC	Autumn 2026
	Achieve the A Rocha Gold Eco Church Award	Increase congregational engagement by a weekly 'drip feed' of ideas via the e newsletter	Creation Care Steering Group	Summer 2025
	To work to support our mission priorities by growing our income	PCC decisions about investment strategy	Finance Committee PCC	Spring 2025
		Planned Giving Campaign	Working Group	Spring 2026

Note 1

The congregational consultation revealed an appetite for both offering hospitality to the local community, and having events in partnership with community groups. The PCC invite members of the congregation to consider what these might look like, and to offer to lead them.

Safeguarding <i>Working to keep everyone in our Church family safe from abuse and harm, especially children and adults who may have vulnerabilities</i>	To help sidespeople and welcomers grow in confidence, knowing what sort of concerns to share and with whom.	Training at Sidespersons meetings.	Wardens, PSO	Spring 2025 and then annually
	To continue to raise the awareness of safeguarding in key groups of people, for example Coffee and Company volunteers and Messy Church volunteers.	Share case studies at team meetings as top up training and discussion,	Safeguarding team, Group Leaders	From Autumn 2025
	To enable those with whom we come into contact to understand safeguarding more clearly.	Revise the safeguarding pages on the website for accessibility of language.	Operations Manager, Vicar	Summer 2025
	Review our hire arrangements to ensure clarity of requirement for communication to us of disclosures made in external groups.	Confirm best practice with DSO. Implement any changes necessary to hire agreement	PSO Operations Manager	Starting immediately
	Review any safeguarding arrangements that might be needed for CASA concerts.	Draw up risk assessments, consider training door staff	CASA Chair, PSO	Autumn 2025

Progress May to October 2025

Fellowship:

- Crib Festival planned for Andrewtide 2025
- Power assisted doors fitted to the Foyer

Discipleship:

- Youth minister (Ben Rowan) in post September 2025
- Two new 'Pilgrim' groups running Autumn term 2025

Kinship:

- Charity champions appointed within MOT, and engagement with youth, both Summer 2025

Stewardship:

- Environmental policy and action plan nearly ready, September 2025
- Community Eco Connect event October 2025.
- Reserves policy under review, Autumn 2025.

Safeguarding:

- Case study shared at sidespeople meeting, May 2025
- Safeguarding pages of website reviewed, updated and expanded, June 2025.
- Hire agreement reviewed, June 2025.
- PSO has had a conversation with the CASA Chair, and a risk assessment is currently being worked on.