

St John's Walton

Job Description for Part Time Youth Worker

We are looking to appoint someone to help lead and develop our existing work with young people, and introduce new ministries in the community, initially in the local secondary school.

The worker might choose to do this as part of a placement with the Centre for Youth Ministry Course at St John's Nottingham, or simply as a part time job. This will have some implications for their terms and conditions but the same job description applies to both.

Our Situation

Walton is a suburban area on the south west side of Chesterfield. The parish has 7,500 people within it, most who live in private housing. St John's has seen steady numerical growth over the last 12 years, with an electoral roll of 256. This growth led to the demolition of the old Church building and a new one being opened in 2006. Our teenage groups presently use the Church Hall and a hired village hall on a Sunday and by July 2010 St John's will have completed the last phase of our building work, which will provide an additional three permanent meeting rooms. Our churchmanship might be described as 'open evangelical' and influenced by the renewal movement. For more information, see St John's website, www.stjohnswalton.co.uk.

Our Youth Work

The Youth Worker will bring their experience, enthusiasm, expertise and ideas to support the existing work and develop new initiatives.

The work is divided into two main areas :

1. Face to face work with 11 – 18 year olds in a church context.
2. Identifying and developing opportunities within the wider community.

Our present work is focussed on two groups.

- **'TIG'** (Teenagers into God) meets on 3 Sunday mornings a month and is for those aged 11 – 14. They also have a monthly social event, usually on a Saturday. Most Sundays they have 10 - 15 members.
- **'Big TIG'**, for those aged 14 – 18, meets twice a month on a Sunday morning and once a month in a 'homegroup' style on a Sunday evening. They also run a club night (T.I.G. Friday) fortnightly on a Friday night and periodically run Youth Alpha. Numbers for Big TIG varies from 10 – 20 on Sundays and 10 – 25 at T.I.G. Friday.

Every 2nd Sunday in the month we hold an All Age Service, when neither TIG nor Big TIG meet.

Our Ministry Team oversees the day to day to day life of the Church; one member of which is responsible for overseeing all our work with Children & Young People. At present, TIG has four leaders and Big TIG two. A larger team help out at T.I.G. Friday. The Youth Worker will work alongside these existing leaders but also have scope to deepen the existing work and introduce fresh initiatives.

The Role of the Youth Worker

Work with our Church Groups

- Involvement in leading TIG or Big TIG on the 1st, 3rd and 4th Sundays in the month
- Involvement in leading Big TIG Homegroup
- Actively contribute towards leading the activities of T.I.G Friday
- Involvement in monthly TIG Socials
- Attend and actively participate in Team Planning Meetings
- Involvement in Local Youth Events and networking with other workers

Work in the wider Community

- Involvement in our local Secondary School. The School have given permission for the Worker to have access to the School. This is after a number of years when access has been denied, so the Youth Worker will need to show sensitivity and caution in their approach to earn the respect of the staff. Possible areas of involvement include supporting the school CU and/or running a 'drop in' Lunch Time Club.

Initiatives

- The Youth Worker will be a catalyst for new ideas and events. There will be scope for them to develop new initiatives over time, either alongside the existing Church based work or in the wider community context.

Flexibility

- The Youth Worker will be required to work flexibly. It is unlikely that any two weeks will be the same and the Youth Worker must be willing to work both during the day time, evenings and weekends. The hours of work will be averaged out over time. Time for preparation is acknowledged as work.
- The Church also acknowledges the need for flexibility. Demands of the Course must be met and we will seek to be aware of this. One day off a week from work and study will be strongly encouraged.

Expectations

- As a public representative for the Church and as a role model to young people we have high expectations of conduct and behaviour. We would hope all members of the Church would seek to follow the bible's ethical code for lifestyle and behaviour in their personal conduct and towards others.

CRB Check

- It is standard practice for the Church of England for those that work or supervise children and young people to be CRB Checked prior to commence paid or unpaid (volunteer) work.

Terms and Conditions

Hours

14 hours a week variable when necessary

Holiday Entitlement

6 weeks a year

Financial Arrangements

£8 ph to £10 ph depending on experience

Paid monthly

All Youth Work related expenses paid

Supervision

The Line Manager will be Rev'd Chris van D'Arque and fortnightly meetings will be established.

Office Base

Principally from home; the Church Office could be used outside of Office hours. The office is open Tuesday to Thursday.