



# Andover Parish **YOUTH WORKER**

## *Role Description:*

JOB PROFILE	
Job title	Youth Worker
Team	Youth Team
Reports to	Youth Community Lead
Principle Location	St Paul's Church
Work pattern / hours	5 days per week (40 hrs)
Enhanced DBS required	Yes
Salary	£25k - £27k per annum depending on experience
Tenure	2 years with the potential to extend subject to funding
Annual Leave	26 days plus Bank Holidays



## CONTEXT

### The Town

Andover is a rapidly growing market town in Northeast Hampshire with a population of c.52,000. It is a great place to live. It is full of young families surrounded by the stunning countryside of the Test Valley. It has good schools and local amenities with excellent road networks, especially to the West Country and is just over an hour by train to London Waterloo.

### The Parish

Andover Parish has been in existence since May 2023 and encompasses the four churches of St Mary's, St Michael's West Andover, St Paul's and St Michael's Knights Enham. It is a Resource Church in Winchester Diocese and part of the HTB Network of churches.

The parish is led by a clergy team, rector, and a PCC representing all the worshipping communities. We are a close knit, supportive team who prioritise prayer and discipleship and seek to help each team member find their vocation.

As churches we seek to see people come to faith in Jesus and the town thrive under our vision of **'Living for Jesus, Caring for Andover'**.

### Youth

The youth work has been emerging since the formation of the parish and is led from the parish Youth Hub (St Paul's) ministering to young people across the town. Our vision at the Parish of Andover is for young people to discover Jesus and live life to the full, becoming agents of change to the world around them. Andover Youth Church at St Paul's Church is **'For young people – by young people'** and we have a vibrant group of young leaders who we are mentoring to lead the Youth Church with adult support.

Our mission is for this to be a safe space for discovery of Jesus, discipleship and nurturing the faith of our young people and to grow a new community of active Christ-focused disciples filled with purpose, hope, faith and love.

### Youth Team

The team is led by the Youth Community Lead and is comprised of around 20 lay leaders from across the Parish.

### Current Provisions

- Sunday morning youth group at St Mary's – average attendance of 10. 12-16 yrs
- A Wednesday evening youth group at St Paul's – average attendance of 20-30. 11-17 yrs
- Andover Youth Church (including Youth Alpha)- average attendance of 25. 12-18 yrs
- Outreach into local Secondary Schools and Andover College
- Mobile youth work based around the Life Bus

We are passionate about developing good rhythms for our young people to allow space for friendships to be built in safe environments as well as opportunities to discover and grow in their faith. We are aiming to establish a flow from our youth outreach (going to where the young people

are), to our Wed Night youth group and Summer youth festival (discovering Jesus), to our discipleship groups at St Mary's, connect groups, Andover Youth Church and weekend residentials.

As part of our youth program we offer opportunities to connect with the wider church through attending an annual youth festival, and working with other churches.

We have a number of partnerships with other organisations including the Primary Care Network, Young Person's Mental Health network, Kintsugi Hope Youth, Missional Youth Church Network, Youthscape and YWAM.

### Development Opportunities

We want you to love your job, grow and learn as much as possible with us. We will work with you to develop a Professional Development Plan which will identify relevant and ongoing training to support your role. There will be opportunities to join with other youth networks, including HTB, to learn from others and be inspired.

## THE ROLE

The Youth Worker role is a new post for Andover Parish seeking to support the growing youth ministry in our town. We are looking for an exceptional person who shares our heart for young people in Andover and is passionate about reaching them with the gospel of Jesus Christ and encouraging them in their discipleship journey. This person must have experience of growing a church youth ministry within a local church context.

As the Youth Worker you will have an essential role in supporting the development of Andover Parish Sunday morning youth groups, Andover Youth Church at St Paul's Church, leading Youth Alphas, enabling discipleship of young people, Wednesday Night youth group and the Life Bus detached youth work. Your role will be focussed on working closely with the Youth Community Lead and volunteer teams to catalyse and nurture the Christian faith among young people.

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Provide opportunities for young people that help with the development of their discipleship, teaching from the Bible, organising residentials, both inspiring and supporting them in their faith.
2. Lead Youth Church with the young leaders — preach, run Youth Alpha, and any other events to share the gospel and help young people discover Jesus.
3. Offer appropriate pastoral care and support to young people together with the wider team.
4. Advertise, champion, and communicate new initiatives available for young people, and play a key role in developing and leading the sessions.
5. Manage social media accounts effectively to increase reach and offer inspiring content.
6. Lead teams doing detached youth work in community settings (e.g. Life Bus at local skatepark) and build on the partnership and networks with school and college.
7. Work closely the Youth Community Lead on the wider strategy to grow and develop Youth Church and establish young leaders discipleship programs.
8. Work collaboratively with the staff team and other teams in the church, across the life of the parish.
9. Use appropriate systems and processes (as directed) for capturing learning and data, recording, and monitoring accurately.
10. Maintain vigilance and good practice around safeguarding

## ESSENTIAL SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED FOR THE JOB

- Be committed in prayer and rooted in a sustaining devotional life.
- It is a Genuine Occupational Requirement (GOR) that the holder of this post is a practicing Christian modelling in their life and work a deep and sacrificial commitment to their personal Christian discipleship.
- Open to ongoing spiritual formation and mature prayer life.
- Be committed in prayer and rooted in a sustaining devotional life.
- Teachable spirit and willing to learn, to have regular supervision and be guided under others.
- Passionate about engaging with and discipling young people.
- Experience of and involvement with youth work particularly in a church context.
- Current and satisfactory enhanced DBS certificate essential before taking up post.
- Safeguarding training and willingness to complete church specific courses.
- Approachable, motivated, organised and resilient.
- Able to work well in a team or alone and take direction and feedback when necessary.
- Experience and competence in organizing events such as Alpha and away days.
- Excellent communication skills both written and oral.
- Excellent interpersonal and collaborative skills.
- Competent in administrative, organisational, time management and budgeting skills.
- Committed to following all staff/church policies.
- IT literate and strong MS Office skill set.

## DESIRABLE SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Good understanding of safeguarding practices with young people and children.
- Training for Christian youth ministry on a recognized course at a college.
- Ability to lead music in worship.
- Experience of Secondary Schools' work.
- Experience in youth based missional activities.
- Experience of running events.

## NEXT STEPS

For further information and to apply please email CV and cover letter to [patorector@andoverparish.org](mailto:patorector@andoverparish.org)

Deadline for applications midday on 5<sup>th</sup> November. We reserve the right to speak to potential candidates in advance of this date and progress an appointment sooner if possible.