

Youth Worker - Job Description

Baljaffray Parish Church

The Church

Baljaffray Parish Church is a busy and active congregation which aims to help people enjoy a living relationship with Jesus Christ. We are already a church where all-ages gather in worship and we are now looking to develop our youth ministry.

Some Background

This is a new position with plenty of scope for someone to develop and shape the role. In saying this, we are not expecting someone to start from scratch. The culture of the congregation is intentionally welcoming towards children and young people. We have a team of 14 people volunteering to lead Sunday School and Bible Class term time and another bank of volunteers helping out during the holidays. 30 - 40 young people come along to Sunday School each week. We also run a summer holiday club with around 80 primary school children attending - many of our teenagers from Bible Class help out at this as leaders. Our Bible Class for secondary school children has around 10-15 people. We have good links to youth work in other local churches and with our local schools. And yet, for all these positives, there is considerable scope for developing faith in our young people.

We hope that this new post can be a catalyst for us to focus on helping our young people become followers of Jesus. We are therefore looking for someone who knows the importance of relationships and who is also willing to take responsibility for mentoring and discipling others.

Scope of the Role

The youth worker role has scope to evolve in the medium term. Initially, the role would be a part-time position for two years (with a 3 month probation period).

Job Description

Working predominantly with the 11-18 age group the youth worker will:

- Develop and deepen relationships with young people to encourage them in their discipleship and faith.
- Encourage and enable participation of young people in church life.
- Provide teaching and pastoral care for the young people (along with volunteer helpers) in the church, giving particular attention to discipleship.
- Network with other church based youth workers in the area and participate in shared events and groups in the Bearsden area.
- Mentor volunteer leaders.

There is an established chaplaincy team at Bearsden Academy. Involvement in this is an option, but we are also aware of the need to be realistic about what can be achieved in the time available. The intention for this role is to work with the young people who are already part of the church to help them grow in faith and life, become followers of Jesus. At least initially, outreach and school involvement are important, but are not considered to be the main focus of the position.

Support for the Youth Worker

We believe this is exciting and challenging opportunity for a person with a heart for helping young people to grow in faith. We are also conscious of the importance of maintaining a good work/life balance, especially in a part-time position. We envisage the youth worker will be joining a ministry team which already has a strong sense of sharing in the work and mutual support for one another.

Key applicant attributes

- You should be of sound Christian faith, spiritually mature, with a growing biblical knowledge. It is an Occupational Requirement that the post-holder is a committed Christian with a current church connection.
- You should have a passion for ministry among young people and families.
- You should be an effective communicator and have good interpersonal skills.
- You should be able to engage with those who have little or no church connection.
- You should be self-motivated.
- You should be able to function well within a team context and be willing and able to delegate where appropriate.
- You should be willing to become familiar with, and work according to, the current Safeguarding policy in the Church of Scotland.
- You should have knowledge, wisdom and experience in the appropriate use of social media.
- You should be comfortable working in a church which is committed to baptising children.

Desirable:

- Qualification in theology and/or youth work or a related field.
- Familiarity with Christian youth resources and organisations.
- Good presentation and IT skills.
- UK driving licence.

Terms

Approximately 20 hours work per week with scope for mutual flexibility. Salary in the region of £10000-£12000. Option to negotiate hours and salary dependent on the successful candidate.

The successful applicant will be required to join the Protection of Vulnerable Groups Scheme or undergo a PVG Scheme update check prior to taking up post.

Application

Please submit a CV with the names and addresses and phone numbers of two referees (including your minister or pastor). In addition, you should submit a statement of why you feel called to this post, roughly one side of A4 paper.

Post Applications to: Rev Ian McEwan
 5 Fintry Gardens
 Bearsden
 Glasgow
 G61 4RJ

Or send by E-mail to: imcewan@churchofscotland.org.uk

The closing date for applications is 26 May 2017. All applications will be acknowledged and interviews will be called for within two weeks of the closing date.