



APPLICATION PACK - Youth and Children's Worker  
Chippenham Mission Area



# THE CONTEXT IN CHIPPENHAM

This is an exciting time and opportunity to join the developing Christian focussed children and youth work provision across the town of Chippenham, a growing Wiltshire town of 40,000+ people. Although this is a new role, it links in with a longstanding team of volunteers overseen by the full-time youth minister based at and funded by St Paul's Chippenham. Chippenham town has three large secondary schools who draw their students from the surrounding areas as well as multiple primary aged schools including church and special needs community schools and campuses for Wiltshire College.

The new Youth and Childrens worker will operate within the Mission Area around the town, working towards our aim of building on and expanding current children and youth work across the parishes and town of Chippenham. They will work closely with the current youth worker in the town and the Mission Area leadership team, to whom they will be accountable. The work involves

expanding current provision, growing fresh initiatives, and developing ecumenical partnerships. There is flexibility as to which congregation the person in this role will be based in, but operations will be town wide and across parish and denomination boundaries.

## OUR AIM

We long to see young people encounter Jesus in a life-changing way. Our prayer is that they will grow as followers of Christ into adulthood, making positive differences to the communities and world they live in.



# HOW WE ARE DOING THIS NOW

The Greenways group of churches have employed a Youth Worker for several years, growing a full range of clubs and groups using St Paul's church and hall buildings, and in some of the local schools. This youth work is part of a wider strategy at St. Paul's incorporating groups and residential events throughout the year.

- SPY for school years 6-9. A fun, active Friday evening group involving games, quizzes and time for conversation about faith. Many who attend school lunchtime Christian Unions also attend SPY.
- The Christian Unions currently meet at lunchtimes in Hardenhuish and Sheldon Secondary Schools.
- Ignite offers a Sunday evening term time youth worship opportunity. Attended by secondary school pupils, it is also a place where young people learn and develop leadership skills.
- God Squad is a midweek evening group looking at the Bible and aspects of Christian life together.

- Sunday mornings at St Paul's involve young people in collaborative leading of worship, or in the Immerse group.

See [Children & Youth Groups | St Paul's Church Chippenham \(stpaulsweb.org.uk\)](#) for more information.





# HOW WE WANT TO REACH MORE YOUNG PEOPLE:

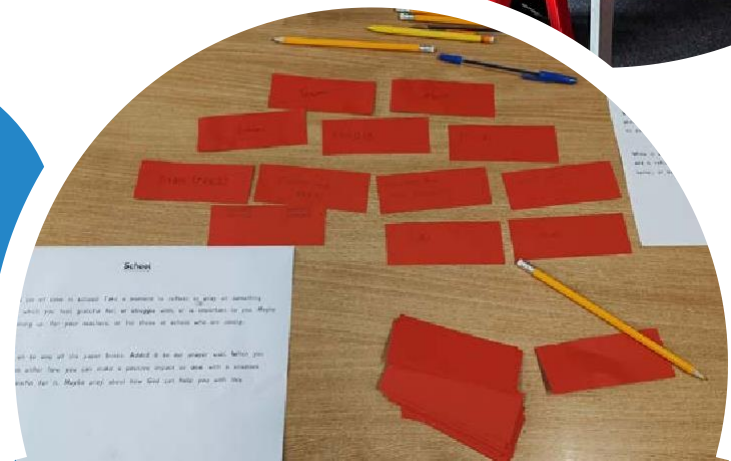
Chippenham Deanery has identified the need for an additional Children and Youth Work to build on and expand the current provision and form part of the Mission Area Partnership across the town. We are aware our reach is limited to half the secondary schools in town, and that the youth work for Chippenham is currently based and funded in one location. We desire to be creative and courageous in expanding our reach to children and young people with the love of Christ.

- Reaching the third secondary school in town, expanding our CU and education offering.
- Opening an additional youth group, probably located in one of the other town churches.
- Exploring detached youth work to create new, essential connections.

- Strengthening the discipleship offering for the young people across town.
- Expanding our work with primary schools and church children's groups, with a particular focus on the key transition that happens at the end of Year 6.

We believe this can be achieved by employing another youth worker to work alongside our existing groups, and enabling their expansion.

The Church of England churches in the town have started working together as a Mission Area, and we have received funding from the national church for this project for at least 5 years.



## The Mission Area Prayer

**Loving God.**

**We recognise we are stronger together, united under the banner of your love, sharing the gifts you graciously grant us, and intentionally working together.**

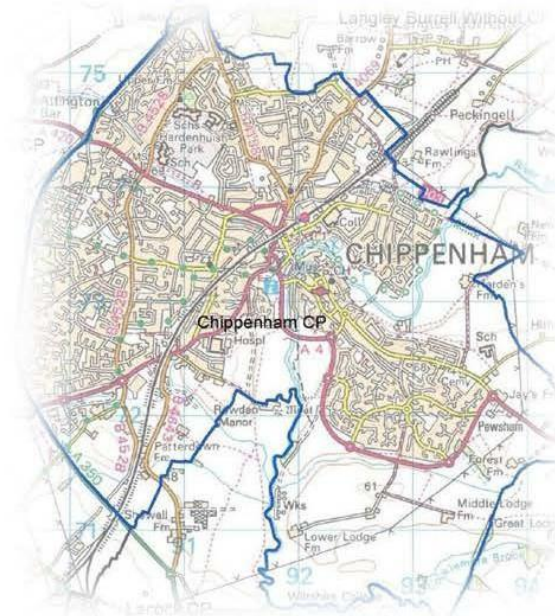
**Bond us in your love. Lord.**

**Envision and embolden us to proclaim and live out your good news.**

**We offer ourselves to you as you build your church around Chippenham.**

**We stand united.**

**We desire our unique and different backgrounds, experiences, skills and hopes, to be united in purpose, in the name of Jesus. And as we are empowered by your Holy Spirit, help us to creatively reach out together to those in and around Chippenham who are yet to know you personally and accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour. AMEN**



# ROLE DESCRIPTION

**Genuine Occupational Requirement:** This post is subject to an occupational requirement that the postholder be a practicing Christian under part 1 of Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.

## ESSENTIAL ATTRIBUTES AND EXPERIENCE

- A firm, visible, and evidence-based commitment to the Christian faith.
- Ability to sustain your own personal discipleship and be centered in prayer.
- Mission focused, with evidence of experience in relation to faith-based youth work.
- Evidence of growing and supporting children and young people in their faith.
- A versatile and creative self-starter, with a proven track record in initiating and sustaining ministries.
- An ability to work independently as well as within a team.
- Courage to make appropriate delegated decisions and respond well to authority.
- Able to build, promote and equip a wider team of volunteers for the longer term.
- Proven ability to communicate effectively with younger generations.
- Able to enthuse wider church congregations in the need for youth and children's engagement and to find creative ways to encourage and enable others to join in.
- Youth and/or Children's work qualifications are desirable but not essential.

## PRINCIPAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Building on and encouraging the opportunities that currently disciple and nurture young people in Chippenham as well as developing new ways to engage children and young people in the life of the church across the town.
- Encourage, equip and create sustainable youth work ministry across the town in coordination with the St. Paul's Youth worker.
- Be a key leader in developing existing schools work and relationships in secondary schools including weekly term time lunchtime Christian Unions and occasional lessons.
- Enabling greater reach to secondary and tertiary education in the town, particularly by building relationships with Abbeyfield Secondary School and Wiltshire College.
- Develop opportunities to build relationships with un-churched children and young people, with a particular focus on the areas of deprivation around the town.
- Build connections and develop current partnerships with other agencies in the town working for Children and Young People. These include ecumenical partners as well as the local council and the RISE Trust (who are also involved in detached youth work)



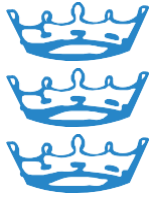
- Enable the mentoring of young people in leading worship and using other gifts/ministries.
- Supporting the work in primary schools and with younger age groups.

## ANTICIPATED WEEKLY ROUTINE

- Working with your line manager to effectively manage your time and and organise the working week.
- Be actively involved in Hardenhuish and Sheldon Secondary Schools.
- Working at growing volunteer teams to increase schools work and our reach across town .
- Active involvement in Ignite (the current weekly term time Youth Worship provision for the town held in St Pauls Church Hall)
- Regular meetings with your line manager.
- Creating links with others church Anglican congregations by attendance, sharing of information, teaching and encouraging and developing volunteer teams.
- Regular meeting and offering written updates with Mission Area Team.
- Messy church team development across the mission area in conjunction with the Incumbent at St Peter's.
- Involvement in assemblies in Primary Schools around the town.
- Primary School assembly team development with the Incumbent at St Peter's.

## OVERSIGHT, ACCOUNTABILITY, SUPPORT AND COMMUNICATION:

- The day to day supervision of this role will be undertaken by the Curate within the Benefice of St Peters' Chippenham with Lacock and Bowden Hill, in conjunction with the Mission Area Lead lead Incumbent and Line Manager. and the wider Mission Area Leadership Team.
- The employer will be the Diocesan Board of Finance.
- The post holder will meet regularly with the supervisor and line manager (work matters, planning new initiatives and supervision)
- They will take part in an annual review with the Mission Area Lead (or other member of the mission area leadership team)
- They will meet with the Mission Area Leadership Team for support and advice on work, work development and be an active member of that team.
- They will provide regular written reports for the Mission Area Leadership Team Meetings
- They will attend Deanery Synod Meetings.
- It is expected that the post holder would take part in spiritual direction, support for this can be provided.



# THE DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

## HUMANITY RECONCILED CREATION RESTORED

The Diocese of Bristol is presided over by the Bishop of Bristol, The Right Reverend Vivienne Faull. The Bishop of Bristol is supported by the Suffragan Bishop of Swindon, the Right Reverend Neil Warwick. The Venerable Christopher Bryan is the Archdeacon of Malmesbury and the Reverend Becky Waring is the Acting Archdeacon of Bristol. The Reverend Adam Beaumont is the Associate Archdeacon.

***Transforming Church. Together (TCT)*** its vision: Humanity Reconciled, Creation Restored. It began in 2021 with an extended period of listening to God and to one another. People from across the Diocese joined in conversations and online questionnaires to share experiences of faith, society and the church, and to discuss hopes for the future. From these conversations, four guiding values were discerned: Creativity, Openness, Bravery and Generosity.

Those values inspired a vision and strategy which seeks transformation across the whole Diocese by the grace of

God. Each Deanery and Benefice is encouraged to work out what TCT means in their particular context – the same principles can inspire and develop mission in very different ways. With major financial support from the national church, the Diocese is offering support and resources in key priority areas of ministry. These include:

- Enabling parishes to discern vision and implement plans
- Help for benefices with evangelism, discipleship plans and resources
- Training, coaching and support for teams setting up and running Fresh Expressions
- Support for ministerial wellbeing and vocation. Each incumbent will receive bimonthly coaching sessions, with additional support for those new to their post.
- Enhanced provision for volunteer training and administering safeguarding



- Increased capacity in the Diocesan office to support parishes with the care and improvement of church buildings
- Investing to become a Net Zero Diocese by 2030
- Overcoming barriers to faith by addressing the church's history on racial justice and diversity
- Developing partnerships between the church at various levels and local councils, businesses etc
- Investment in work with under 18s through school chaplaincy, youth interns and workers
- Investment in deprived parishes, church plants/grfts and new Mission Areas

This is a huge, exciting, and sometimes frightening vision, which we can only attempt in the strength Jesus supplies through his Spirit.

### **Diocesan Support Service**

The Diocesan Support Services exist to support the mission of the church. Based at the Diocesan Office to the north of Bristol and made up of 50 employees and volunteers, the DSS serve ministers, parishes and schools by expressing vision, strengthening relationships, empowering people, maximizing resources and developing structures. We offer training, consultancy, advice in a range of areas, highlight and share best practice across the Diocese and manage different aspects of the life of the Diocese.



# FURTHER INFORMATION

This is a five year fixed term role in the first instance. There is the potential that could be extended but this would be subject to securing further funding.

For an informal conversation about the role please contact the Mission Area Lead, Revd Si Dunn at [revsidunn@gmail.com](mailto:revsidunn@gmail.com)

To apply for this role please complete the application form that is available alongside this pack, and email it to [jobs@bristoldiocese.org](mailto:jobs@bristoldiocese.org) by noon on the 20nd November 2024.

