



YOUTH MISSIONER (Huntingdon) Further Particulars and Role Description

Job Title	Youth Missioner
Salary	£14,143 to £15,840 (pro rata to £27,500 to £30,800 for a full-time role) depending on experience
Hours	18 per week (9 hours with Huntingdon Parish, 9 hours with Thrive, to be managed by the role holder). Some evening and weekend work will be required. Details to be agreed with the Line Manager.
Contract Term	One-year contract (fixed-term) to cover maternity leave (<i>subject to three months successful probation</i>)
Reports to	Jon Randall, Vicar of Huntingdon
Employer	Parochial Church Council of the Parish of Huntingdon

Introduction

We are excited to offer this opportunity to build on the highly successful Youth ministry in a thriving church community, and to support the Thrive Youth Work project in Huntingdon and surrounding areas. God is clearly at work among us and attendance at Sunday services and other activities are at record levels. You will be a key part in ensuring that there is continuing growth both missionally and in the discipleship of our young people.

We are determined to invest in you and in your vocational journey and will offer opportunities to support that.

For further information about the parish and the role please view the accompanying Parish Profile document. If you would like to visit us or find out more about this exciting opportunity in a growing church, please contact Jon Randall at jon@huntingdonparish.org or on 07399 779567.

This post is funded through the diocesan Changing Market Towns Project - a project designed to see transformation in some of our market towns.

Job Location

The place of work is the parish church of All Saints with an expectation that the post holder will be required to travel around the parish and work from session venues as required. Some working from home may be permitted with prior arrangement with the line manager but this will not change the place of work.

Main Duties

The specific objectives of this role are to:

- Be the person who leads youth ministry in the Parish of Huntingdon, as part of the Changing Market Towns Project;
- Support Thrive Youth Work (a missional youth work project developed by the Diocese of Ely and partners, and now delivered by Huntingdonshire Community Church, or HCC) <https://www.thriveyouthwork.com>
- Work in partnership with other churches of the town, their leaders, congregations and the other workers appointed to enable mission among young people.

The main duties will include a number of the following at any one time. Priorities and the development of the vision for these will be agreed between the post holder and the incumbent on a regular basis.

Parish of Huntingdon

Lead and deliver youth ministry in the Parish of Huntingdon by:

- Preparing and delivering Sunday Evening Youth group sessions and socials;
- Working with volunteers from the Parish of East Leightonstone to support young people across both parishes;
- Leading and supporting a youth volunteer team;
- Encouraging, supporting, and guiding young people on their journeys of faith.

Support the mission of the local church by:

- Working with local churches to identify missional opportunities and grow missional engagement with young people;
- Supporting church activities, such as team meetings and Sunday Services as agreed.

Maintain a safe environment and comply with safeguarding policies by:

- Ensuring that the Diocesan Safeguarding Procedures are strictly complied with (with the support of the Parish Safeguarding Officer and Diocesan Safeguarding Team).

Thrive Youth Work

Support the Thrive Youth Work project, by:

- Supporting the Thrive Core Team through regular team meetings;

- Maintaining partnerships and relationships with churches, schools and other partners;
- Delivering Thrive programmes as required, which *could* include the following:
 - Thrive 1:1 or group mentoring in local secondary schools;
 - Thrive Youth Cafés in Huntingdon and Godmanchester;
 - Faith exploration activities through Thrive Collective;
 - Additional Thrive activities during the school holidays;
 - Administration and planning relevant to programme delivery.
- Supporting Thrive volunteer teams;
- Following evaluation and reporting processes;
- Liaising with Huntingdonshire Community Church team to ensure that the project is being delivered effectively.

Maintain a safe environment and comply with safeguarding policies by:

- Ensuring that the HCC Safeguarding Procedures are strictly complied with (with the support of the HCC Safeguarding Officer) when delivering Thrive activities.

Ethos and working practices

Applicants are referred to the accompanying *Introduction to Thrive Youth Work* document which contains a detailed description of the ethos and method of Thrive. The role-holder will become a member of the Thrive team with the supervision, mentoring and assistance of the Thrive Project Lead and will be required to work comfortably and entirely within the ethos and working practices of that organisation.

In addition to the role-specific job description, every Changing Market Towns Worker will:

- Work closely in partnership with the Vicar and with other paid and voluntary workers as part of a whole town team leading in mission, developing a strong understanding of the communities and context that we serve. Support and guidance will also be provided through the Diocesan Mission and Ministry Department.
- Encourage and lead the development of the growing new worshipping communities, as part of the Diocese's blended economy of fresh expressions and inherited-mode church.
- Engage widely and confidently with the community, appropriately sharing faith and enabling others to join in mission and service.
- Participate in worship in an Anglican setting within the town, supporting and affirming mission through both inherited mode and pioneering forms of church and/or new worshipping communities.
- Contribute to a culture, through modelling and training, where mission in word and action become part of the life of the parish.
- Manage, support and recruit volunteers encouraging every member ministry, and helping engagement with training provided by the Diocese at all levels. Develop volunteers in their roles and vocational journeys, identifying and encouraging new leaders where appropriate.
- Help both enquirers and new believers on the 'Journey to Faith', developing discipleship opportunities and identifying 'next steps'.
- Play an active role in local and diocesan shared mission, collaborating with diocesan officers and other co-workers.
- Engage with ongoing training and development.
- Work creatively to establish sustainable mission activity.

The core skills of understanding new worshipping communities, evangelism, culture change and training will also be required. As part of our investment in you, continuing professional and formational development will be supported as part of this role as agreed with the incumbent. This includes being part of a learning community (which may include occasional residential courses) with others working in similar roles across the Diocese. Regular supervision will be provided.

There is an **occupational requirement for the role holder to be a practising Christian**. There is no requirement that the role holder will be an Anglican, but they will be expected to work within and be sympathetic to the ethos and structures of the Church of England. The role holder will also be required to engage and work with local churches from other denominations.

Person Specification

The successful applicant must have experience of working with young people within a Christian environment. Experience of working in schools and the local community is also essential. You will be able to work flexibly and comfortably with both professional and volunteer colleagues. You will be sympathetic to the aims, objectives and ethos of the Church of England and will be enthusiastic about the mission to grow the work of the church in the town and beyond.

You will have good communication skills, be keen to learn and have a friendly and helpful approach to both colleagues and strangers. Training will be offered, and there will be support available.

These are the essential (E) and desirable (D) qualities we are looking for:

A demonstrable love of Christ	E
Experience of working with schools and / or young people in a community setting	E
Experience of working with young people through a youth ministry setting	E
Experience of teaching the Bible in a variety of contexts	E
A demonstrable ability to 'love' the community in which you are based	E
Good verbal and written communication skills	E
Confidence in using technology and social media	E
Good self-awareness and the ability to reflect	E
A friendly and warm persona with an ability to work well with a wide diversity of people	E
An understanding of how to handle confidential and sensitive information	E
A commitment to uphold current safeguarding legislation and best practice	E
The ability to travel independently	E
Previous experience of leading and developing fresh expressions of church	D
Leadership experience, with responsibility for empowering and releasing volunteers	D
Qualification and / or training in theology, mission and evangelism, or in youth work	D
An ability to think strategically	D
An ability to balance teamwork with entrepreneurial imagination	D

In addition to the expectations of all Changing Market Towns Workers, the successful candidate will be:

- A 'self-starter' who can work on their own, on occasion in an environment which presents conflicting demands and expectations;
- An intuitive and creative worker who will be able to identify paths to successful outcomes;
- A confident communicator who is self-aware and able to receive negative as well as positive feedback;
- An advocate for social justice who can recognise and deal with the consequences of social deprivation and the safeguarding issues common to youth work;
- Happy to report to several stakeholders.

Application Process

Please complete the application form in full. A Curriculum Vitae (CV) will not be accepted as a substitute.

Completed applications should be returned by email to markettowns@elydiocese.org, and by the closing date published on the Diocese of Ely website.

Please use the application form to demonstrate - with relevant examples - how your skills and experience meet the requirements of the role for which you are applying. The further particulars and role description set out the qualities and experience being sought, and the selection panel will use this as the basis for deciding whether or not to invite an applicant for interview.