



Senior Youth Minister | Woodlands Central

BACKGROUND

Woodlands Central is a large and vibrant, city centre church that serves the city of Bristol as part of one of six church sites in the Woodlands Church Family. Our vision is to see our city transformed by the love and power of Jesus.

Central to our plans to reach this city for Jesus are young people! In Bristol, there are 90,000 young people who don't have regular contact with church or faith. We would love to see this change!

At Woodlands Central we currently engage up to 90 young people and teenagers through our churches and events each week. Our youth ministry currently comprises a large Friday night youth gathering, Sunday morning discipleship groups, "football church", a mentoring programme and schools work connections. We also have a packed programme of weekends away, trips, socials and summer camps throughout the year.

ROLE

We are looking for someone who can work alongside the youth director, established youth team and congregation leaders to help our youth ministry double its impact in the next 5 years. Within this role, the youth minister will inspire and equip the Youth Team within Woodlands Central to share faith, disciple and equip young people to live lives of whole-hearted devotion and commitment to Jesus.

We envision this will be through implementing our strategy to **Connect>Explore>Respond>Grow**.

CONNECT - develop new outreach initiatives to connect with unchurched young people.

EXPLORE - discover ways to help those young people explore faith in & encounter Jesus for themselves.

RESPOND - provide opportunities for young people to respond to the Gospel of Jesus.

GROW & GO - lead settings where young people can GROW & GO into the lifestyle of the kingdom.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

We would love to see you develop, build and nurture relationships both within and outside of the church, that can see young people's lives changed by encountering Jesus. Developing key relationships with team, young people and parent/carers will be essential to see this potential reached.

This role will require leading a large team of incredible volunteers (20+) and working with a large number of parents. After your induction phase is completed, you will be responsible for line managing any "Ministry Apprentices" or "Year-out team" who are placed with the youth team that year alongside the youth director.

You will be working collaboratively with the other WCF youth ministers from other sites and possibly with a part-time associate youth minister based at Central as well as other youth workers in the city.

TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

We are committed to lifelong learning as well as investing and developing our team. We have training packages in place for the successful applicant, including theological and practical training options.

Induction phase -

We invite all new staff to adopt a learning posture as they get to know the church culture, the team and the city. The first few months will be intentionally spent shadowing other members of the team and working alongside the Youth Director. Your responsibilities will then gradually increase during the first 12 months to take on the roles outlined in the job specification.

Job Specification:

Area of Work	Responsibilities
1. Develop & Deliver Youth Programmes	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Working alongside the WCF Senior Youth Director to develop strategies and programmes for discipleship of youth. Helping to serve the WCF Mission, ensuring quality Sunday youth provision and local discipleship.2. Prepare termly plans, programmes and special events.3. Be part of WCF Youth Team meetings.4. Together with the congregational leaders, lead volunteer youth teams.5. Ensure good communications with young people, parent/carers and other practitioners.6. Support the co-ordination of WCF cross-congregational Youth events, including weekends away, camps and mission trips.
2. Outreach to the City	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Support the development of a city-wide strategy to grow youth evangelism opportunities.2. Build relationships with and work alongside other youth organisations serving the city.

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Help to lead, support and develop the delivery of any WCF school related work. 4. Create stepping-stone programmes to draw unchurched young people into discipleship and integrate them into the church family.
3. Champion & Grow Youth Ministry	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Promote youth ministry within the WCF vision, mission, values and ethos. 2. Develop team life and volunteering opportunities to grow our youth ministry and outreach. 3. Build cross-congregational youth ministry opportunities and connection. 4. Support the recruitment, retaining and training of youth volunteers. 5. Lead and support youth team volunteers and ministry apprentices. 6. Ensure that Youth Ministry is visible, engaged and represented within the wider church. 7. Build and develop opportunities for our young people to connect with the wider church family. 8. Manage team structures, roles and reviews.
4. Build up the youth in our churches	<p>Together with the WCF Senior Youth Director and Youth Teams:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Plan and implement structures to ensure pastoral care and intentional discipleship for our young people. Including mentoring, a Biblical curriculum and discipleship programmes. 2. Develop worship and prayer ministry within Youth Ministry 3. Create safe places, where young people belong and feel connected. 4. Develop worship and prayer ministry within youth ministry. 5. Support the identification and development of young people's gifts, including investing in leadership development opportunities and programmes. 6. Provide appropriate support for young people with additional needs and arrange training for teams in order to provide that support. 7. Work with the safeguarding team to ensure our youth provision is safe.

Reporting: Accountable to local Congregational Leaders and Senior Youth Director as line manager.

Last updated: 26/1/2024

Requirements: This role requires a commitment to the WCF team.

Key Skills and Experience:

The person we are looking for will have...

- **A passion for mission.** A desire to see unchurched young people encounter Jesus and progress on a journey of faith.
- **Experience with outreach** and evangelism among young people, including schools work and other forms of mission.
- **Experience leading a team** – able to recruit and lead through volunteers and coordinate a large team.
- **Excellent interpersonal and communication skills.** Personable, approachable with strong communication skills both upfront, with the team, young people and parents.
- **A strong track record** of working with young people. Ideally, having worked as a youth pastor/minister previously.
- **Be creative**, imaginative and innovative.
- Organisation and planning skills.
- Ability to lead and train a team of volunteers.

Requirements/Personal Attributes:

Essential

- Experience of recruiting, motivating and managing volunteers.
- Ability to organise and structure events/initiatives/teams.
- A team player - able to work as part of a diverse and shared team.
- Evening and Sunday availability.
- Reliable, adaptable and responsible.
- Work under own initiative.
- Self-motivated and able to take initiative.
- Forward planning and able to manage time efficiently.
- Able to relate to all ages/backgrounds.
- Ability to share your faith effectively.
- Biblical knowledge and the ability to teach.

Desirable

- Good upfront communication skills i.e. public speaking & preaching
- Relevant qualifications e.g. youth work, first aid.
- Ability to think and reflect theologically e.g. theology qualification & training.
- Awareness of best practice in youth work.
- Good administrative and IT skills.
- Own transport and full UK driving licence.