

Job Description and Person Specification

Youth and Children's Leader

Full-time: 38 hours p/w

Salary: £22,500 - £26,000 (depending on experience and qualifications)

1. Introduction

Hope Community Church Aintree (HCCA) is a lively, family and community-orientated Baptist Church in Aintree, Liverpool. With a broad age range of members of the church, there is a good number of children and teenagers regularly attending each week.

We are looking for an experienced and enthusiastic Youth and Children's leader to develop and grow the ministry with children and young people locally; someone gifted in evangelism and discipleship to help children and young people to understand the truth of Jesus, and then hone their relationship with Him.

We recognise that most candidates will have greater skills, or experience, with either children or teenagers, and where appropriate a part-time intern or trainee position will be sought to complement the skills in the other age range. **Although the vacancy is for a full-time position, a job-share or part-time applicant will be considered in either a Youth Leader or Children's Leader capacity.** (Please state on your application if this is your intention).

The ideal candidate will have experience of running discipleship activities with children and/or young people, such as Sunday School and teaching, youth Bible studies, and also experience in evangelistic children's and youth ministry, for instance running a kid's club and/or summer holiday club or youth Alpha. The candidate should be able to work on their own initiative, hands-on with youth/children, plus lead, develop and resource existing teams.

The contract is for an initial three years, inclusive of a six-month probationary period.

Purpose:

- To take leadership of the youth and children's ministry of Hope Community Church Aintree.
- To ensure that all children and young people within the life of the church are discipled, growing in their personal faith with Jesus and have the opportunity to explore and use their God-given gifts.
- To widen the reach of the church toward children and young people, ensuring those whom we come into contact with have an opportunity to hear and make an informed decision to respond to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

2. Job Description: Youth and Children's Leader

2.1. Sundays:

Take a lead role in the Youth and Children's Ministry on a Sunday morning, including:

- Oversight of all Sunday youth and children's ministries:
 - Stay and Play (under 4s), Hope Kids (primary age) and Impact (secondary age).
- Regularly leading in the above groups, plus lead the teams who serve in each ministry.
- Planning for each group and developing, encouraging, and leading volunteers.
- Leading whole-church children's messages in a fun and engaging style.

There is an expectation to be out with the young people or children for three out of four Sunday mornings.

2.2 Weekdays:

- a. Develop and lead a midweek Bible study for older church teenagers.
- b. Organise and lead weekly evangelistic children's clubs and youth groups.
- c. Plan and lead occasional evangelistic and discipleship courses (e.g., Youth Alpha), as appropriate.
- d. Mentor young people, as appropriate.
- e. Develop and pioneer new evangelistic ways to reach or disciple children and young people in Aintree Village, in line with your own gifting and passions (e.g., music, drama, sports, dance etc.).
- f. Play a supporting role for ongoing activities which are running for families, e.g., 'Hope Tots' and the 'Family Friendly Café' (for children/teens with Special Educational Needs or disabilities).
- g. Maintain positive engagement with local schools.

2.3. Administration:

- a. Keep accurate records of all under 18's who take part in activities at HCCA.
- b. Plan and organise activities; communicate effectively to volunteers, church members and families.
- c. Ensure all policies in relation to children's ministry are up to date, and volunteer teams are aware of, and working within, best practice.
- d. Demonstrate and ensure the best practice in safeguarding at all times, and be accountable for all Health and Safety issues, to include risk assessment, pertaining to the postholder's area of responsibility in order to fulfil the statutory obligations of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974.

2.4. Other Duties:

- a. Plan and have oversight of community outreach activities in school holidays.
- b. Help and encourage children and teenagers to find their God-given gifts.
- c. Ongoing research into current youth and children's culture and church culture.
- d. Play an active role in the life of the church, including attending Small Group and prayer meetings.
- e. Work within a defined budget.
- f. Undertake any other duties as identified by the Minister and/or Elders of HCCA.

3. Role Details:

- Full time, 38 hours per week, **or** Part Time 19 hours per week. (Please specify on application).
- 20 days annual leave per year, plus Bank Holidays.
- Two days off per week.
- Responsible to the Minister and Elders (an appointed elder will be your line manager).
- £22,500 - £26,000 per year, dependent on experience and qualifications.
- There is an expectation to live within a reasonable distance of Aintree Village.
- If married, it is preferred that as a family, you will consider engaging in the life of the church together.
- The role has a six-month probationary period.
- There is a Genuine Occupational Requirement under Schedule 9, Part 1 of the Equality Act 2010 that the post holder must be an active, committed, evangelical Christian.
- Applicants must be eligible to work in the United Kingdom.

Application Deadline: **31st May 2024.** (Interviews will be held in June, date TBC)

Applications Returned To: vacancies@hccaintree.co.uk or posted to Chris Wells, Hope Community Church Aintree, Aintree Lane, Aintree, Liverpool, L10 2JJ. You can also email to arrange an informal chat or to learn more about the role.

4. Person Specification

	Essential Required minimum for the role.	Desirable Ideal or helpful criteria.
Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minimum of two years experience in a paid Christian youth and/or children's worker position. - Relevant qualification <u>or</u> evidence of relevant ongoing informal training. - Full UK Driving Licence. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Degree in a relevant field, e.g., Theology and Children's / Youth Ministry or Initial Teacher Training / PGCE.
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leading regular evangelistic under 18s ministry clubs in a church or team context (e.g., Kids Clubs or youth groups). - Have led under 18s discipleship in a church context, (e.g., Sunday School/youth Bible studies). - Involvement in summer holiday clubs/Bible study/Christian conference weeks. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience of leading summer holiday clubs. - Experience of leading or serving in 'Messy Church' or equivalent. - Involvement in evangelistic courses, e.g., Youth Alpha, Emmaus etc. - Experience of working with children with Special Educational Needs.
Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience of leading teams. - Ability to motivate, encourage and communicate a vision. - Able to work proactively and with minimal supervision. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience of building a team from scratch.
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Able to communicate confidently with adults (parents, team members, church leadership etc.). - Excellent communication skills with children and young people. - Able to use modern and innovative ways to communicate. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Experience with social media in a professional capacity. - Experience of leading or participating in church services.
Character	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Passion for children and young people: seeing them meet, encounter, and grow in their walk with Jesus. - Teachable, servant-hearted, ability to work within a vision. 	
Christian Faith	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An active, evangelical Christian. - Active, daily, personal devotional life. - Willingness to work agreeably within the principles of the Baptist Union of Great Britain. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Baptised by immersion.