

## Youth Pastor

### St Paul's Church, Cheltenham

An exciting opportunity to join a vibrant church in the role of Youth Pastor, as we enter a new stage in church life.

#### **Introduction to St Paul's.**

St Paul's is a young, family church with around 200 adult members, some 50 children and 25 young people. We are charismatic and evangelical in flavour and try to operate with liberal amounts of grace whilst applying the truth of God's Word.

We have grown from a small existing church population and a subsequent church plant in 2007 to being on the cusp of a medium sized church (c.250). The change is one we are embracing and putting energy into navigating well. The challenges and opportunities ahead of us are exciting and we believe the Lord will grow us both as disciples and as a church as we move through them.

The church is located very close to the town centre of Cheltenham and has an eclectic mix of communities including young professionals, students and a small but significant area of deprivation. Some of the congregation live in the area and most live within a two mile radius. The church is predominantly made up of young families with a small number of more senior members. We seek to engage and transform our local community and the communities in which we exist through encountering and following Jesus.

The challenges we face include: equipping and empowering church members in ministry; transitioning into a different size church family; serving a deprived locality whilst being predominantly affluent.

#### **St Paul's Youth Ministry**

St Paul's Youth Ministry is full of potential. We currently have 3 regular Youth sessions; Sunday Morning Youth (Year 6-8 and Year 9+), Thursday Football (with youth from our local community) and Friday Night Youth Club (a mix of Church and Community Youth). Each of these activities have a committed team of volunteers and the Church Community and leadership are fully behind our Children's and Youth Ministries.

Over the last 5 years our Sunday Youth Ministry has grown quickly (from 2 to 25 young people) and we are now looking to grow vision for what it means to effectively disciple our young people and create a missional culture in which they invite their friends.

Within our local Community, which has the highest number of children living in poverty in Gloucestershire, Youth Work is one of the most under resourced areas. This provides an exciting opportunity for us, as the local Church, to reach out and share the good news of Jesus. We also have good links with other local organisations which have lots of potential to be built upon.

## **Key purpose of role**

As we move forward, we are looking for an enthusiastic, experienced Youth Pastor who will facilitate and be passionate about both the discipling and nurturing our Church Youth as well as the building of relationships with Youth in the surrounding Community.

We are looking for someone to champion Youth Ministry and be deeply invested in the lives of the young people.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

1. To model the Church Vision Statement
2. To pastor, envision and enable members of the Youth Team and to identify, recruit and train new volunteers as the ministry requires.
3. To oversee, nurture and drive our Youth Ministry amongst our 11-18years within the vision of the church.
4. To build relationships and enable outreach to Youth in the local area and develop discipleship pathways for them.
5. To work alongside other local churches and organisations, in both church and secular areas.
6. To apply best practice with respect to Safeguarding liaising with the Church Safeguarding Lead.
7. To work as a member of the church staff team, liaise closely with the children's ministry and participate in Staff Meetings.

## **Person specification**

### Essentials

- A dynamic, deep and transforming personal relationship with Jesus
- A passion for Jesus and seeing His kingdom come in ALL its fullness
- A calling to serve the St Paul's Community
- A love for youth and a desire for them to know Jesus and be filled with and operate in the gifts of His Spirit
- Experience of leading in youth teams and an ability to identify, train and release new leaders
- An ability to work with youth from a wide variety of backgrounds
- A long term commitment to community transformation
- Computer literacy

### Desirables

- A degree level qualification in Christian Theology or Youth Work
- Good organisational skills and comfortable with a team office environment.
- Strong grasp of social media
- High emotional intelligence and a focus on relationships
- Experience of using sport as an opportunity to share faith

## **Safeguarding**

As our commitment to Safeguarding, the role requires applicants to demonstrate a commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults of all cultural backgrounds and have a good awareness of relevant policies and procedures, statutory legislation and guidance. Candidates will be required to submit a self-disclosure check at interview and the role will be subject to an enhanced DBS check.

## **Conditions of Employment**

**Title:** Youth Pastor

**Hours:** Full time – 37.5 hours per week

**Salary:** £28-£32k package (£16-£20k salary + housing) dependent on experience

**Pension:** The PCC will contribute 5-7% of salary to an approved pension scheme.

**Expenses:** All approved working expenses are met in full by the PCC.

**Location:** St Paul's Church Offices, St Paul's Old School, Cheltenham

**Holidays:** 6 weeks paid holiday in addition to bank holidays and to include seven Sundays

**Housing:** Accommodation is provided and it is an occupational requirement that you will live in the parish of Cheltenham St Paul.

**Participation in prayer and bible study:** You will be expected to attend staff team meetings, worship and church prayer meetings as well as deepen your relationship with God through personal prayer and bible study.

**Statement of Faith:** It is an occupational requirement that the post holder is a committed Christian who is willing and able to sign the Saint Paul's Statement of Faith.