



Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in the Church Youth and Families Worker role. We appreciate the time you have taken to apply and would like to provide you with additional details about the recruitment process. This pack contains all the information concerning the post; we encourage you to review these materials thoroughly. We also understand that you may have further questions. If you would like to have a conversation either by telephone, Zoom, or in person please don't hesitate to get in touch with Julie by email juliestmichaels@outlook.com or on 07392 768266.

The pack contains the following information:

- Church and organisational profile
- Youth and Families Worker Job Description
- Important information
- Youth and Families Worker Person Specification

Interviews

Interviews will be held at St Michael's Church on Tuesday 10th February 2026, and there will be an opportunity to visit the Church buildings in the daytime and the Youth Group in the evening. Lunch will be provided and a chance to meet other key people. We will aim to finish the formal interview by mid-afternoon. Accommodation can be provided if required.

We look forward to getting to know you better during the selection process. We pray that God will guide you and speak to you as you consider applying for the position.

Yours sincerely

Rev Phil Goodey
Vicar of Highworth & Rector of Broad Blunsdon

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St Michael's Highworth and St Leonard's Broad Blunsdon

St Michael's Church is a thriving well-established Church of England evangelical church in Highworth - a Cotswold market town a few miles northeast of Swindon. We have a regular congregation of between 60 and 80 people on a Sunday morning, with several hundred people attending the annual festival services.

St. Leonard's church is in a large growing village, Broad Blunsdon. It has a lively but elderly congregation with strong links to the community and a Church of England Primary School. There are over a thousand new houses planned within the immediate area around the two parishes.

The Churches have a long history of ministry to young people and their families and are well regarded locally. Our youth work includes a youth group of 20+ teenagers who meet in St. Michael's, attended by both our church young people and many young people from the wider community.

On Sundays, our young people are given the opportunity to go deeper into the Bible and faith, connecting to everyday life.

The Church ministry team consists of the Vicar, a Curate, four volunteer youth support workers, three licensed lay workers and a number of retired clergy.



Join Us in Growing God's Kingdom Through Youth and Family Ministry

We are passionate about sharing the Good News of Jesus' grace and love throughout our community - and we are looking for someone who shares that calling. As our Church Youth and Families Worker (CYFW), you will have the exciting opportunity to build upon and expand our existing ministry, helping young people and families encounter Christ in real and lasting ways.

You will play a key role in leading and developing Sunday youth sessions, while also working in partnership with local churches in Highworth and Blunsdon, and building strong connections with local primary and secondary schools. This will include taking assemblies, collaborating with RE leads, and joining forces with other youth workers across Highworth and Swindon to create a truly united Christian presence in our community.

At the heart of this role is a vision for integrated, outward-facing ministry — one that connects church life with everyday life. You'll have the chance to support existing activities for young people and families while also exploring new ways to reach and inspire them, helping our ministry grow in fresh, Spirit-led directions.

If you're eager to make a lasting difference in the lives of young people while developing your vocation in Christian youth work, we'd love to hear from you.

Context

Within Highworth we have one Primary school, one Infant School and a Junior School. All these feeding into the secondary school, Highworth Warneford School. In Blunsdon there is a Church of England Primary School. We have good and long-standing relationships with all these schools. There is also a small independent Christian School in the neighbouring village of Sevenhampton (Maranatha School).

During 2017-19 St. Michael's Church building underwent major refurbishment. Providing a large flexible open space with underfloor heating, commercial level kitchens, and state of the art AV systems. St. Leonard's Church is currently undergoing a similar refurbishment.

Both Churches run thriving toddler groups and, St Michael's is a well-used community space providing facilities for a wide variety of activities across the town.

Both Churches are very much at the heart of their communities, hosting and being involved in many community events.



Other Churches in Highworth and Blunsdon

Highworth Community Church (HCC) is an evangelical church (120+) which meets in Warneford School Hall each Sunday and provides a home for Christians Against Poverty (CAP) ministry across the area.

Highworth Methodist Church (40 - 50) meet in their own church building near St. Michael's.

Highworth United Reform Church (15-20) occasionally meet in their own church building near St Michael's.

There are 100 to 150 regular Catholic worshippers who live in Highworth who currently do not have their own place of worship and commute to churches in neighbouring towns.

The churches offer a range of theological understanding and worship styles, and it is essential that the youth worker can work with them all.

Job Description: Church Youth and Children's Worker

What we need	What We Offer
Someone who can relate to our existing young people and set them an example of Christ, in their lifestyle, behaviour and walk with God.	A team of volunteers who will help with the youth work. People who will pray and support you.
Someone who can build upon our good relationships with our local schools, take assemblies, and get to know staff and students in a positive and encouraging way.	Friends who will walk alongside you, providing training where needed and opportunities to talk and be listened to.
Someone who can take a lead in supporting and developing the leadership of our youth group nurturing the volunteers and discerning gifts and abilities.	Peer support and mentoring with other Youth Workers across Swindon and the Diocese of Bristol.
Someone who can work as part of a team but also think independently.	Admin support from the Church Office.
Someone who is comfortable working across a range of church traditions and differing community groups	People with a wide variety of church and secular working experience.

Important information:

Working Hours	Full time: 37.5 hours a week Will include occasional Saturdays, Sundays and some evenings One day per week as a sabbath rest day One day a month as a quiet day for reflection Four weeks paid holiday a year and four extra Sundays as holiday
Salary	Up to £35,000 per year based on experience and qualifications
Expenses	Working expenses and mileage at 45p per mile will be covered by St. Michael's Church PCC and St. Leonard's Church PCC
Working Locations	Working from Home & Church office for admin St. Michael's Church / St. Leonard's Church The Parish Church Rooms
Length of Contract	Three years [Initially]
Contractual 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.

Safeguarding	An enhanced DBS check will be required.
Contributory Pension	Both the Post-holder and the PCC will pay into a contributory pension for the Church Youth and Families Worker.

Person Specification: Church Youth and Families Worker

ATTRIBUTES	ESSENTIAL The minimum acceptable level for safe and effective job performance	DESIRABLE The attributes of the ideal candidate
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE	At least two years' experience of youth work.	Experience of youth work in a church context. Experience of leading and developing discipleship programmes.
QUALIFICATIONS	Educated to degree level or equivalent relevant qualifications or a clear demonstration of significant relevant experience.	A JNC recognised youth work qualification. A full clean driving licence.
DELIVERY SKILLS	Able to organise and plan work. Experience of evaluating, reflecting, and improving on your own work.	An ability to develop and train others in youth work delivery. Experience of providing pastoral support and one-to-one mentoring.
LEADERSHIP SKILLS	Able to accept responsibility for own work and projects. Experience of leading others and being led	Experience of leading a team of volunteers. Experience of setting up and establishing new projects. Experience of managing others.
COMMUNICATION SKILLS	Able to communicate formally and informally Able to listen to the needs of others. Able to establish appropriate relationships with young people and their families. Good IT skills.	Experience of presenting to groups. Able to establish and maintain partnerships. Able to develop positive relationships with people from a wide demographic.
INTERPERSONAL SKILLS	Able to work as part of a team and independently. Able to listen, motivate and encourage others and respond positively to feedback.	Experience of working as part of a team.

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PERSONAL QUALITIES	<p>Enthusiastic and self-motivated. Flexible. Able to work in a variety of settings. A creative thinker. Able to demonstrate good emotional Intelligence. Evidence of a desire for personal development and growth.</p>	<p>Outgoing personality, Good sense of humour A willingness to be involved in all aspects of the program development and budget.</p>
CHRISTIAN COMMITMENT	<p>An active member of a local church. Able to express their faith to others. Living a lifestyle that reflects their faith. A passion for evangelism. A good understanding of the Bible. An ability to relate the bible to young people.</p>	<p>To have a good understanding of the practice, spirituality, and breadth of the Church of England.</p>

The successful candidate will be required to complete an enhanced DBS check.

You must have the right to work in the United Kingdom.