

Youthscape

Church Partnerships Officer (LyCiG)



Youthscape

Youthscape is working to see every young person in the UK reached with the transforming love of God. We believe that this will only be achieved through the renewal of the local church's engagement with those young people; a church inspired and equipped with vision, research, skills and resources. This means that our primary focus is on inspiring, resourcing and training churches for the task of reaching young people.

We are youth workers. For more than 30 years, we have worked directly with young people and churches in our home town of Luton, Bedfordshire, and our work continues to flow out of this direct experience. Our vision to inspire the church and reach young people is rooted in both passion and practice.

We will engage three key groups through our work. We will invest in youth leaders, resourcing them for their task, training them to work innovatively with the emerging generation, and helping them to keep going for the long haul. We will seek to inspire and train church leaders to create a context for great youth work. And we will work directly with young people, both in Luton – where we continue to model excellent youth work - and nationally through events and resources which help to embed teenagers in their local church.

We will know that we are succeeding when more churches are growing because they prioritise the welcome and support of young people, and when more young people are finding a home in the Christian faith.



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Job Information

Youthscape are working with Leading Your Church into Growth (LyCiG) to support the extension and development of LyCiG's work with Churches who are seeking to grow in numbers and grow their youth ministry.

As part of this partnership, Youthscape wish to appoint a new member of staff to join their National Church Training Team to enable this work.

Based at Youthscape and utilising the youth work charity's expertise, research and resources, the postholder will work alongside LyCiG to refresh and renew their existing conferences and materials and also steer a programme of work to develop a new offering provisionally titled 'Leading your Youth Work into Growth'.

- Do you have a background in youth work, training, developing resources and building effective partnerships within the Church and youth ministry sector?

- **Are you passionate about enabling youth ministry, evangelism and mission, seeing local churches reimagine, grow and thrive in their community?**

- **Do you have effective skills in project management, research and relationship building, report writing and presenting and/or resource development?**

- **Do you have experience in working alongside church leaders and lay leaders to inspire, encourage and listen to their needs in a range of contexts and traditions?**

Who we're looking for

The person we're looking for to fill the role has extensive youth work expertise, particularly in a Church setting. They'll also have an understanding of the challenges that churches face in engaging young people and resourcing youth ministry, both when starting from scratch and when seeking to sustain youth ministry.

They'll be passionate about the potential of the Church to reimagine youth ministry at a strategic and local level and have lots of ideas and creative tools from their own practice.

They'll be a people person, able to work across two forward-thinking organisations and willing to travel as well as engage both online and in person with the teams that they are part of.

There are two key aspects to the role:

1. Increase and enhance the youth ministry content of the existing LyCiG courses.

2. Developing, piloting and launching a new 'Leading your Youth Work into Growth' course.

This role has been funded through People and Partnership Funding via the Vision and Strategy team of the Archbishop's Council, equipping the Church of England to grow younger and see the number of young people engaged with the life of the Church double in the next decade.

Key tasks and responsibilities

1. Lead Youthscape's work to review and evaluate the current LyCiG programme in how to address young people and youth work.

This will involve:

- working with the other members of Youthscape's National Church Training Team to develop course content and material, including the commissioning of any media.
- attending LyCiG courses in order to get feedback from LyCiG speakers and participants and carry out any other research to gain the insights required.
- working closely with the LyCiG staff team and attending LyCiG meetings and events as agreed.
- piloting and testing new content in LyCiG courses and using feedback and evaluation to improve and develop the new materials into a finished form.
- leading the training of LyCiG presenters to use the new course materials.

2. Lead Youthscape's work to develop a new course with LyCiG, provisionally titled 'Leading Your Youth Work into Growth.'

This will involve:

- working with Youthscape's National Church Training Team and wider team to develop the theory of change for the course and course elements, including how any new course would be delivered.
- chairing a Working Group drawing together Youthscape and LyCiG to provide feedback and advice on the project as it develops.
- creating and commissioning course content, including media and written materials.
- planning and delivering the pilot of the new course, provisionally planned for Spring 2026.
- working with LyCiG to support the launch and delivery of the new course including training presenters.
- other work as required to support the introduction of the new course.

3. Additional expectations

- Working as part of the Church Development Team and the wider Youthscape team including attendance at weekly chapel and team meetings, retreats (three times a year) and helping to deliver the National Youth Ministry Weekend and Satellites.

ESSENTIAL

DESIRABLE

Experience, knowledge, and qualifications

- Educated to degree level minimum
- Experience of local church youth ministry.
- Experience in public speaking, training and delivering presentations.
- Supporting and building networks and inspiring and equipping others.
- Developing and writing training material.
- An understanding of current approaches and models of youth ministry.
- An appreciation of the challenges and barriers that prevent many churches from working with young people.
- Engagement with current research, thinking and practice in the youth ministry sector.
- Understanding of the Anglican Church, and Diocesan and clergy audience and ability to relate accordingly.

- Employment within a dispersed team, hybrid working and regular travel.
- Employment within a church context.
- Experience of a range of church traditions and varied youth work models.
- Experience in working across multiple organisations.
- Evidence of ongoing professional development & training.

Skills and abilities

- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Problem solving skills and the ability to take initiative, in isolation and in a team.
- Organisational skills, including time management, planning and goal setting against objectives.
- Capacity to self-organise and complete work in a timely and conscientious manner.
- Good administrative skills, IT skills and management of processes.

- Enhanced IT skills – spreadsheets, creative applications etc.
- Line management experience, team leadership skills.

Attributes and values

- Mature Christian faith.
- Passion for the local church, evangelism and mission.
- Act with integrity and fairness.
- Gracious and accepting of difference.
- Empowering and supportive to colleagues.
- Able to travel and be away from home overnight, if and when the role requires.
- Able to work in Bute Mills for one day a month.

- Ongoing involvement in youth work at a local level.



Terms of employment

This role will be part of the Youthscape Church Development Team and line managed by the Director of Church Development.

The role is part time (3 days a week).

Youthscape benefits from a committed team who work closely together and have built a strong team culture. That means many staff work from our base at Bute Mills. In the case of this role, a minimum of one monthly visit to Bute Mills will be required, together with attendance at our shared team activities like our retreats, Satellites festival and the National Youth Ministry Weekend. Other work-related travel may be required.

The salary for this role is from £28,000 (pro rata) depending on experience.

The role is currently funded for three years.

There is a requirement that the role be held by a Christian.

Youthscape offer an employer's contributory pension scheme for all staff and a wide range of employee benefits including:

- 25 days paid holiday (plus bank holidays) rising to 27 days after three years and 30 days after five years service (pro rata).
- Additional annual salary increases within a pay band.
- Three staff retreats each year.
- £300 annual training allowance to be spent by employee plus access to fund for formal qualifications.
- Apple Macbook Pro provided and available for personal use.
- 24 weeks of paid maternity leave (12 weeks full pay, 12 weeks half pay) and 4 weeks of paid paternity leave (see our terms and conditions for details).
- 4 week paid sabbatical for longer serving staff.

How to apply

Potential applicants are welcome to contact the Director of Church Development, Alice Smith for a discussion in advance of making a formal application at alice.smith@youthscape.co.uk.

Applications must be made by midnight, Friday 15th November.

You should download the Youthscape application form from our website and send the completed form, together with a short covering letter, to mulkina.mackay@youthscape.co.uk. Mulkina can also address any questions about the application process or any difficulties in completing the form.

A selection of candidates will be invited to interviews on December 4th in Luton.



Youthscape

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