



WOODFORD BAPTIST CHURCH

Interim Children & Youth Pastor (12 month contract)

35 hours per week including Sunday mornings and evenings

Salary £28-33k

We have a vision for our whole church family to live life to the full. The Children & Youth Pastor will have a key role in making sure it underpins ministry from the very beginning of life. For us, that means growing in the following four areas:

Love of the Father - which we experience more and more, and as the place our story begins, continues and ends.

Identity in Christ - in the midst of all the pressures to conform to ideas and ideals, we choose to fully become the unique person Jesus is forming us to be.

Fire of the Spirit - as we live a life surrendered to a supernatural God, we long to fan into flame every gift of the Spirit and live a life together that is marked by the presence of God amongst us.

Everyone welcome - as God shapes us into the community he designed us to be, we will use all that we have to help others encounter this new life we have found, life in all its fullness.

We are looking for a passionate individual that can seek God's heart for our children (from birth to 11) and young people (11-18). You will be someone who enjoys leading and empowering teams to inspire and disciple children and young people into a life of faith in Jesus. You will enjoy training, equipping and empowering young people into future leaders.

Job Description

Reporting to the Eldership of the church, the main elements of the role include:

Maintain personal spiritual growth and be spirit-led

- To be prayerful and to follow the prompting and guidance of the Holy Spirit
- Maintain spiritual disciplines such as studying the Bible, praying, fasting, worship and fellowship, to ensure personal spiritual growth
- To seek God's heart and vision for our children and youth

Leadership

- Create and build the under 18's ministry, growing volunteers into leaders to support the vision
- Empower, equip, train and encourage volunteers to lead and serve in the children and youth teams

- Teach, nurture and communicate well with our children and youth to support their journey of discipleship. Help them to discern and use their gifts in ministry to one another, the wider church and community and become future ministry leaders.
- Work with families to support and encourage them to bring up their children knowing Jesus

Teambuilding and Training of Volunteers

- Inspire, recruit, develop and lead by example the teams of children and youth ministry's volunteers
- Develop and equip individuals to become deacons/team leaders to oversee each strategic area of our children and youth work
- Ensure the ongoing training and development of the volunteer team, including leading regular team times
- Encourage the wider church to pray regularly for the children, youth and families connected to the church

Management & Organisation

- Source, develop, plan, and oversee the calendar of activities across the year
- Regular leading/teaching of children and youth activities, on Sunday, midweek and one-off events such as light parties, social events etc
- Plan, organise and manage holiday activities e.g. residentials
- Ensure suitable discipleship of children and youth within the church
- Ensure toys, resources and equipment are suitable, in good working order and regularly revised
- Oversee the budget for children and youth ministries

Pastoral Care

- Be the primary point of pastoral care for our children and youth
- Encourage families in their roles as parents and primary discipler of their children, equipping them to raise their children for a life of faith
- To spend time weekly in prayer for the children and youth volunteer leaders
- Advocate for the under 18s in the church, ensuring they are always considered and valued in the life of the church

Networking

- Network with people involved in children and youth ministry both nationally and locally
- Build relationships with local schools and ministries. Explore and establish new activities, developing ministries to reach local families who are not currently in contact with the church

Safeguarding

- Responsible for the safeguarding of children, youth and adults at risk within the church
- Supporting the Safeguarding trustee on safeguarding training, policies and procedures to ensure they are regularly reviewed, improved and implemented

Staff team and development

- Attendance at bi-monthly leadership meetings
- Attend a bi-weekly one-to-one with the Elders
- Participate in weekly staff prayer meeting
- Engage in continuing professional development

Person Specification

- Practising Christian; committed to seeking and serving God, living a lifestyle that sets a good example (it is a genuine occupational requirement for this post to be filled by a person committed to the Christian faith)
- Experience of the Holy Spirit working in their lives
- Someone who is currently a regular and active member of their existing church
- Enjoys building relationships with children, youth, families and the wider community – a good communicator who can work with different ages and personalities
- Enjoys leading teams and inspiring and empowering others
- Approachable and fun whilst maintaining appropriate boundaries
- A commitment to understanding and meeting the needs of children, young people and their families in our local community
- An enthusiasm for sharing the gospel
- The ability to work both as part of a team and under their own initiative
- Diplomatic, tactful, a good listener and patient; able to deal with conflict when it arises
- Capable of engaging at both a personal and wider church level
- Able to work with people from a wide diversity of backgrounds and ages
- Creative and innovative

Qualifications and Experience

- Experience of working in at least one area of children and youth ministry is essential
- Relevant or transferable qualifications (e.g. CYF, Teaching qualification or similar) is desirable