

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH (NORTHERN PROVINCE) TRUST LIMITED

Pioneer Worker – Children, Young People and Families (North West & Central Newcastle group of churches)

Hours:	Part Time (20 hrs) to include some Sundays by arrangement.
Salary:	£24,600 FTE
Contract:	Initial Contract for 2 years.
Responsible to:	Northern Synod Youth & Children's Work Advisers. In addition the post will work with a steering group drawn from the churches in the joint pastorate.
Job summary:	This new position provides an opportunity to work with a group of churches to help them pioneer and develop new work with children, young people and families. The post involves working as a member of the Northern Synod Field team in the churches in West End URC, St Andrews Kenton URC and Jesmond URC and contributing to Synod strategy for working with children, young people and families. The URC Northern Synod covers the area from North Northumberland to Northallerton.

General Job Description

- To work alongside the Synod Youth Work Advisor and Children's Work Advisor to provide a co-ordinated approach to children and youth work across the Synod.
- To be part of a team who pioneer mission, share learning and reflect theologically and learn so that the Synod might grow in its connection with children, young people and families.
- To work with local churches to support them and pioneer mission activity appropriate to the local context including working with local schools.
- To support churches as they transition to the 'New Normal' particularly with a blend of online and face to face ministry.
- To support, equip and train volunteers in developing approaches to mission and discipleship with children, young people and families.
- To build networks and partnerships with others working with children, young people and families across including local churches and community organisations.
- To promote, support and develop the Synod Youth Opportunities scheme.
- To encourage attendance of children and young people at Christian camps and events within Northern Synod and beyond.

- To ensure the voices of all URC Children & Youth members within the Synod are heard and celebrated.
- To increase the presence of Children, Youth & families at Synod meetings and events
- To ensure (in conjunction with the Safeguarding Officers) that safeguarding policies and procedures are fully implemented for all who work with children and young people in the Northern Synod.
- To participate in relevant training and be open to opportunities for personal development.

Specific Job Description

Working with the URC churches in West End, Kenton and Jesmond and other churches as appropriate:

- To develop relational discipleship programmes for the children and young people who are currently connected with these churches.
- To develop outreach to and engagement with children and young people on the fringe of church life.
- To develop existing links and work in schools that are part of the communities that group churches serve.
- To strengthen links with existing user groups and develop relational connections, including with uniformed organisations.
- To explore the development of work with children with additional needs in particular but not exclusively with Hadrian School.
- To initiate and develop work with families through Messy Church or equivalent programmes.
- To work with the Group Minister, Revd Ryan Sirmons, communicating and co-operating together to further the mission of the churches in the Group
- To work with the other children and youth workers in the areas around the churches, in particular with the Diocese of Newcastle, reNEw NE, and Youth for Christ to achieve a co-ordinated approach.

Person Specification

Essential

- Committed Christian
- Experience of Mission with Children, Young People and Families
- Ability to work as part of a team and on own initiative with minimum supervision
- Experience of helping children young people and families with no church connection to explore the Christian faith in creative and relevant ways
- Good communication and people skills
- Approachable to both young people and adults

- Sensitivity and pastoral understanding with the ability to establish positive and productive relationships with all ages.

Desirable

- Relevant educational qualification at FE/HE or post grad level
- Experience of working with schools
- Aware of the need for appropriate safeguarding policies and their implementation
- Computer literate, internet and social media “savvy”

Additional Information

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010: Part 1, Schedule 9, there is a genuine occupational requirement for the post holder to be a practising Christian

An enhanced DBS disclosure is required for this post

The successful applicant must be able to provide evidence of their eligibility to legally work in the UK prior to appointment