

# Youth & Children's Worker

## Job Description

### Contract Overview

The Youth and Children's Worker will be accountable to the church fellowship through the elders with day-to-day line management by the Pastor.

- Salary is £28-32k depending on experience.
- This is a full time role but there is flexibility to discuss part time options. There is a six month probationary period for the post with regular line management and an annual review.
- 40 hours per week. Holiday is 30 working days per year.

This post carries a genuine occupational requirement that the successful applicant has a personal Christian faith.

### Role Context

Argyle Community Church (ACC) is a medium size independent Bible-based Church with a core vision to be **Always Growing in Christ's love, strength and new life**.

We want everything we do as a church to reflect our key values:

- **Totally Jesus:** Knowing Him and making Him known (Philippians 2:9-11)
- **Extravagantly loving:** Expressing our Father's love through worship and community (1 Corinthians 13:13)
- **Consciously dependent:** We rely on the Bible and the Holy Spirit (John 15:5)
- **Unceasingly prayerful:** Because prayer is transformational (1 Thessalonians 5:17)
- **Culturally relevant:** A church which connects with today's people (Acts 17:22-23)

ACC has a regular Sunday morning attendance of around 100-120 people. We have a very diverse church family both in age and culture, including people from a wide range of countries but most recently from Hong Kong, many of whom who have joined us through running the Welcome Course followed by the Alpha Course.

ACC has a large variety of ministries including:

- Sunday morning worship service. Most Sundays our children and young people join the first half of the service and then go to their groups (L-Zone for primary age, T-Zone for

secondary age) for age-appropriate exploration of what the Bible teaches and how it can be applied to daily life. On the first Sunday of the month we have an all-age service where the children and young people remain in the whole service.

- Sunday evening prayer meetings.
- Weekly LifeGroups.
- Weekly toddler group.
- Weekly baby group.
- Weekly youth group.
- English language classes.
- Monthly church socials including board games evenings, barn dances, quiz nights etc.
- Regular children and family outreach events such as Christmas party, Treasure hunt, summer fun days etc.
- Youth Residential trips including summer camps and youth weekend.
- We run regular outreach courses such as Alpha.
- We have links with the local school and offer assemblies and seasonal sessions to support their RE curriculum.

Our current Youth and Children's worker is resigning for family reasons, and we are actively searching for a new individual to assume the role. The prospective Youth and Children's worker will play a key role in advancing our efforts to foster discipleship and outreach among children and young people, both within our church congregation and in the broader community.

## Job Description

We are seeking a new Youth and Children's worker to develop, lead and expand our work with children and young people and their families, and establish the wider youth leadership within the church. The ideal candidate for this role will be an enthusiastic, dynamic Christian with a desire to see children and young people encounter Jesus, know him personally and grow in their walk with the Lord. This will be accompanied by a passion to engage, support and train parents to teach their own children about the Lord.

The Youth and Children's Worker will take responsibility for enabling the plans and direction of all our youth and children's engagement inside the Church by:

- Being a full-time member of the Church committed to our Vision and Values.
- Leading, managing and coordinating a lively and exciting youth and children's programme for children through to young adults.
- Creating curriculum/resources for our Sunday morning groups.
- Building and nurturing relationships with our youth and children, and their families.
- Training, overseeing, supporting and supervising all those working with children and young people especially ensuring comprehensive safeguarding practices.
- Communicating, informing, inspiring and involving the wider church in what is going on

with young people.

- Increasing awareness of Youth and Children's activities at Argyle via social media and our website.
- Enabling children and young people to participate in the life of the Church - from the point of no contact to sustained involvement, following this model:
  - Contact - enabling our contact with church and non-church children & young people.
  - Nurture - ensuring a healthy connection is established.
  - Commitment - prayerfully and creatively working on our outreach to these young people.
  - Growth - overseeing the discipling of these young people.

The Youth and Children's Worker will take responsibility for enabling the plans and direction of our youth and children's engagement external to the Church by:

- Making contact with new children and young people through outreach activities such as school's work, after school clubs etc.
- Developing key partnerships with other youth provision and other community organisations to understand the needs of the local community and its youth.
- Working with others to integrate youth and children into the life of the Church.
- Representing the Church and its work in wider youth work contexts.

## Person Specification

### Personal Character

#### Essential

- Vibrant and active faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, lived out through a passionate prayer life, obedient discipleship and a desire to know God better from His word.
- Experience and skills working face to face with children and young people.
- Passion for outreach & unchurched children and young people within Reading.
- Self-motivated to lead and develop the youth and children's ministry.
- A strong team player who will invest in volunteers serving the youth and children's ministry.
- Knowledge and interest in trends in youth/children's work and culture.
- Integrity; sensitivity regarding confidential matters.
- Accepting of the Argyle Statement of Faith (<https://argylecommunity.church/about-us/what-we-believe/>).
- Have or be eligible for DBS clearance.

## Skills

### Essential

Demonstrable and proven skills that would be relevant to the role such which will allow you to comfortably engage and communicate with youth and children across the age range:

- Skilled and experienced in teaching a variety of ages how to engage with God's word and apply it to daily life.
- Teaching children and young people from the Bible.
- Strong interpersonal skills, including the ability to communicate well with people from a diverse variety of backgrounds.
- Ability to plan and organise yourself, others and events.
- Familiar with Child Protection & Safeguarding and with a firm and passionate commitment to safeguarding in all activities.
- An ability to work one-to-one and in groups to encourage young Christians in their discipleship and to train young people to reach their friends for Christ.
- Creative, imaginative, and resourceful.
- Efficient administrative skills.
- Able to lead all-age worship services.
- An ability to grow and train a team of volunteers.

### Desirable

- Digital and social media skills appropriate to youth and children.
- Graphic design skills for creating publicity materials.
- A full driving licence and access to a car.

## Experience

### Essential

All-round proven experience relevant to the role in leading within local church youth and children's ministry. This may include organising programmes for youth groups/work, leading teams, leading ministry times, using social and digital media and organising events.

### Desirable

Additional experience in leading/serving within multi-church events, working within a school context, alongside other denominations/churches and creating publicity. ACC is a diverse community, so experience working with people from a variety of cultures is strongly desirable.

## Qualifications

### Desirable

- 5 GCSE's levels at Grade C or above (including Maths and English).
- Other accredited qualification in a relevant discipline (e.g. degree, PGCE, youth ministry, theology).

## Illustrative Weekly Diary

This weekly outline is based on our current Youth and Children's Worker's diary.

This role is very diverse week-to-week so the week below is only an approximate outline.

The diary and working hours of the employee are subject to negotiation.

|           | Monday     | Tuesday                                 | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday                       | Saturday  | Sunday   |
|-----------|------------|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|--|
| Morning   | Day off    | Toddler Group                           | Preparation and planning day (rotas, events, curriculum writing etc.). | Reading Youth Workers Meeting.                              | Baby Group                   | Varies: Events and meetings often occur on Saturday, planning, or day off in lieu of working on Monday. | Youth or Children's teaching or leading all-age service.                                     |
| Afternoon |            | Parent, volunteer and youth one-to-ones |  | Weekly meeting with pastor. Preparation for Sunday morning. | Preparation for youth group. |   | Varies: Hospitality for members of the church or attending different church worship service. |
| Evening   | Life group |   |  |   | Youth Group                  |   |  |

## To Apply

Applicants must have eligibility (the legal right) to work in the UK before they commence employment with Argyle Community Church.

We will consider applications as they are received and will shortlist accordingly.

Please provide details of two referees.

To apply please email your CV and a cover letter setting out your suitability for the role in the context of how God is leading you to: [hello@argylecommunity.church](mailto:hello@argylecommunity.church)

To discuss the role further, contact our pastor, Jamie Cater: [jamie@argylecommunity.church](mailto:jamie@argylecommunity.church)