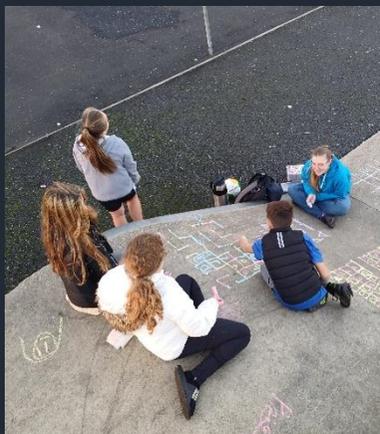




Sessional Youth Worker South East Northumberland



Sessional Youth Worker

Beyond Youth is seeking two passionate youth workers to run a weekly, term-time youth work session in Hirst Park in Ashington to engage with young people there. During the spring and summer these sessions will be detached in nature, in the park itself, building supportive relationships with young people and providing positive activities that promote holistic wellbeing. In the autumn and winter these sessions will move into the Hirst Park Pavilion to achieve the same goals of enabling local young people to thrive and experience life to the full.

About the Beyond Youth project

Beyond Youth is a project in the Diocese of Newcastle working with the Parishes of Ashington Holy Sepulchre, Cresswell & Lynemouth, Seaton Hirst and Woodhorn with Newbiggin.

Our role is to support the parish churches of South East Northumberland to develop and grow their work with children and young people. Beyond Youth staff are managed by the Children and Youth team for the Diocese and work in partnership with the clergy and parochial church councils (PCC) of the above-named parishes.

Our Vision

We want to create opportunities for children and young people to experience life to its fullest, explore the Christian faith, and encounter God for themselves. We do this by:

Seeking

- God in South East Northumberland and joining in
- life in all its fullness for and with children and young people

Sharing

- God's love beyond the church's walls
- good news in meaningful and understandable ways

Sending

- volunteers of all ages to join in with the mission of God
- young people to make a difference in their world

The successful applicants for these posts will help us achieve, in particular, the underlined parts of this vision through open access detached and centre based sessions. As such successful applicants do not necessarily need to be practicing Christians, but they must be sympathetic to our faith-based ethos.

Our values inform every part of how we work and all Beyond Youth team members, including volunteers, are expected to embody these as they walk alongside children and young people. These are:

Love All of our relationships are rooted in love for God, each other, our neighbours and our communities. We don't expect to all be the same all the time, but we do seek out the treasure in each other and the places we work.

Welcome We want anybody who encounters Beyond Youth activities or team members to know that they are truly welcome as they are (to "Be You"). We want to make sure people can access our activities regardless of ability, and engage safely and fully whoever they are.

Community Children and young people are important, not just for who they will become, but for who they are. As we welcome them, we have the opportunity to learn new things from them just as much as they can learn from us. We are committed to being a multi-generational community where everyone grows together.

Creativity When new communities gather, new things happen. We want to respond to an ever-changing world and make sure that the activities we run and the spaces we create are ones that are creatively established and promote yet more creativity.

Our Methods

We work towards our vision through a variety of activities. First and foremost, and then at every stage, the focus is on the young people in front of us. The activities we run and the methods we use should all be shaped by the needs and personalities of the young people with whom we are walking.

The successful applicants for these posts will run a weekly, term time session in Hirst Park which will be detached in nature in spring and summer, and centre based in autumn and winter. This session will complement the wider project which includes the following:

Some of the activities we run will be in **schools**, such as leading collective worship, running after school or lunch clubs, being a pastoral presence at lunch or break times, or taking part in trips and lessons with the school.

Others will be out in public places, mostly through **detached** youth work. In detached youth work we spend time in young people's spaces (parks, football pitches, benches, bus stops) with games, refreshments and a listening ear. At other times we may run **pop up activities** in these places.

Other activities will be in **centres**. These may be church buildings or community buildings, and will take one of a few forms. They may be forms of worshipping communities focused on children and young people, or drop in clubs for whoever wants to come, or activities structured around particular groups of young people.

Finally, we may spend time outside of the area on **trips and residentials**. Taking young people away provides plenty of opportunity to deepen relationships, try new things, and explore faith and life with a different perspective.

Sessional Work in Hirst Park

Since October 2023 we have run detached youth work sessions in Hirst Park, connecting with children, young people and families through hot chocolate, sports, games, a listening ear and other activities. From these sessions and in partnership with Northumberland County Council we have identified that there is a need to provide a second session a week which particularly focuses on young people aged 11+ who are at risk of anti-social behaviour. Thanks to a generous grant from the Northumbria Police and Crime Commissioner we are now able to offer this additional session for a year.

The park houses a bowls Pavilion from which the team will base their sessions for detached youth work and run their sessions for the centre based drop in. During the detached sessions the team will be able to make use of the newly renovated play space, multi-use games areas, or any other part of the park as they see fit. While detached youth work is inherently unpredictable, our hope is that the team will primarily engage with groups identified by the wider Beyond Youth team and Northumberland County Council during the detached sessions such that those same young people will feel welcome in the pavilion come autumn, and that the two phases will share continuity.

The team will be provided with all equipment necessary for detached youth work, and the pavilion will have facilities for gaming, cooking and other activities for the centre based activities. Beyond Youth has further resources available and the team will be able to request these (including ordering new equipment) should the need arise.

Overview

Employment

- The successful candidate will be employed by the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance.
- The Sessional Youth Worker will work for 2 hours per week during school term time, with an additional hour's supervision once per half term.
- The post will run for one year. This may be extended subject to funding.

Accountability and Key Relationships

- The Sessional Youth Worker will be line managed by the Youth and Children's Coordinator.
- Key relationships include: Diocese of Newcastle Safeguarding Team, Northumberland County Council Safe and Resilient Communities Team, Northumbria Police, Seaton Hirst Parish.
- The Sessional Youth Worker will be part of the wider Beyond Youth team, consisting of the coordinator, two enablers, and volunteers.

Location

- The post will be based at the Hirst Park Pavilion. The Beyond Youth Team is based at Grace Darling CofE Primary School, NE64 6RT.

Accountable to the Youth and Children’s Coordinator the Sessional Youth Workers will work together to:

- Deliver a 90 minute weekly session in Hirst Park during term time (plus 30 minutes for preparation and debrief).
- Create a safe environment built on trust where young people can engage in activities which build their resilience and enable them to flourish.
- Commit to non-judgmental, youth-led working enabling young people to build on their strengths while enabling them to overcome their challenges.
- Ensure best possible practice in safeguarding and upholding the youth work code of ethics (<https://nya.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/IYW-Code-of-Ethics-Poster-PDF.pdf>).
- Complete accurate session records promptly.
- Meet with their line manager once a half term.
- Develop and maintain good relationships with local partners, in particular those members of Northumberland County Council and Northumbria Police with an interest in Hirst Park.

Person Specification

	Essential Criteria	Desirable Criteria
Qualifications and Training	<p>Level 3 or above qualification relevant to youth and children’s work, or equivalent experience.</p> <p>Food Hygiene level 2 or willingness to undertake (funded, online) training in your own time.</p>	<p>First Aid at Work</p> <p>Mental Health First Aid</p>
Experience	<p>Minimum of 2 years’ experience working with young people.</p> <p>Experience of planning and delivering positive activities for groups.</p>	<p>Experience of detached work with vulnerable young people</p> <p>Experience of monitoring the impact of youth support interventions</p>
Knowledge and Skills	<p>Working knowledge of the needs of children and young people, in particular the impact of deprivation.</p> <p>Ability to facilitate conversation with young people.</p> <p>Knowledge of safeguarding procedures and the importance of safeguarding.</p> <p>Record keeping skills, in particular through online forms.</p>	<p>Awareness of trauma informed practice in youth and children’s work</p> <p>Experience of using sport, music or cooking in youth work delivery.</p>

Personal	<p>Positive attitude towards engaging young people and nurturing their personal and social development.</p> <p>Integrity, honesty, fairness and a commitment to the aims of the project.</p> <p>Confident, positive and approachable.</p> <p>Self-aware practitioner with adaptability and willingness to embrace challenges and continue to grow.</p> <p>The ability to relate well to young people, colleagues and community partners.</p> <p>Good understanding of the need for and limits of confidentiality.</p>	
-----------------	---	--

General Conditions

Diversity

We understand the benefits of employing individuals from a range of backgrounds, with diverse cultures and talents. We aim to create a workforce that:

- values difference in others and respects the dignity and worth of each individual;
- reflects the diversity of the nation that the Church of England exists to serve;
- fosters a climate of creativity, tolerance and diversity that will help all staff to develop to their full potential.

We are committed to being an equal opportunities employer and ensuring that all employees, job applicants, customers and other persons with whom we deal are treated fairly and are not subjected to discrimination.

We want to ensure that we not only observe the relevant legislation but also do whatever is necessary to provide genuine equality of opportunity.

We expect all of our employees to be treated and to treat others with respect.

Our aim is to provide a working environment free from harassment, intimidation, or discrimination in any form which may affect the dignity of the individual.

Standards of Behaviour and Conduct

Employees are expected to act at all times with due consideration for others and in a manner befitting their position as employees of the Church and as professionals, whatever their job.

Health and Safety Responsibilities

The Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance takes Health and Safety at work very seriously and require their employees to familiarise themselves with, and follow, their policy.

Salary	The post is offered at real living wage of £12.60 per hour for a total of 93 hours per annum, including holiday (£1,171.80 for the year)
Hours of duty	The time of the session will be arranged between both successful applicants and local partners to meet the needs of the context and availability of the workers. This will be a 2-hour weekly commitment in term time (inclusive of 30 minutes preparation and debrief time) plus a 1-hour meeting six times per year.
Contract	The employer is the Newcastle Diocesan Board of Finance. The appointment is subject to a satisfactory outcome of an enhanced DBS disclosure with child barring.

Application and Selection Process

- Applications will be reviewed on receipt and shortlisted candidates will be interviewed at a mutually convenient time. Closing date for receipt of applications: Monday 7th April 2025. Interviews to be held on Friday 11th April.
- Use this link to apply through Pathways: [Click here](#)