

Children and Youth Support



**VINE
CHURCH
WYNYARD**

Employed by: Vine Church Wynyard Board of Trustees
Hours: Up to 12 hours per week
Work Base: Home and local ministry locations
Pay: Real Living Wage - £13.45 per hour
Proposed Start: 18th May 2026
End Date: 23rd July 2027

Applications Close: 1pm, 30th April 2026
Interviews: Likely to take place in the week beginning the 4th May 2026

Post Aim

The aim of the Children and Youth Support role is to assist in the planning and delivery of Vine Church Wynyard's existing children's and youth ministry, to support our church in reaching out to children and young people in Wynyard, and to encourage the growth of our Under 18s as disciple-making disciples of Jesus.

Background

Vine Church is a pioneering Anglican church plant in Wynyard, in the Diocese of Durham. Wynyard comprises of several rapidly growing areas of new housing, and is estimated to be home to around 20,000 people by the end of the decade, many of whom are young families.

Until Vine Church was established, there was no church of any denomination in Wynyard. Husband and wife team Revds Emily and Mark Hudghton were invited to lead the church plant by the Diocese of Durham into the local school, Wynyard Church of England Primary School. These links with the school have been foundational in establishing the church. Further opportunities will arise as (if local plans go ahead as expected) another primary school and a secondary school are also founded in Wynyard - part of the same Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) as Wynyard Primary School.

Vine Church currently has a thriving youth group, a youth bus outreach programme, under 18s provision on Sundays and ministry into Wynyard Primary School including an after-school club as well as leading lessons, services and worship.

Our Values

Children and young people are at the heart of our mission at Vine Church. According to research from *Talking Jesus*, 76% of practicing Christians say they came to faith *before they were 18 years old* and this is at the core of our missional strategy.¹ The opportunity we have to reach out to under 18s with the love of Jesus, especially through our connections with schools, is truly exciting.

We fully believe that children and young people can be disciple-making disciples, supported by an intergenerational wider church. We want to create an environment for children and young people

¹ <https://talkingjesus.org/mapping-practising-christians>

that nurtures their faith and calling and equips their families to see themselves as on mission together.

Purpose of the Post

The purpose of the Children and Youth Support role is primarily to:

- help create a welcoming, safe environment in which children and young people are known, included and cared for
- support the growth of the children and young people of the church and their families in discipleship and mission, as they become disciple-making disciples
- help ensure the continuation and growth of the church's ministry to the children and young people of Wynyard and their families
- develop the church's links with Wynyard Primary School

Main Responsibilities and Objectives

The person in the Children and Youth Support role will:

- support the planning and delivery of the youth group and Sunday Under 18s provision
- help maintain and strengthen school links through co-ordinating the after-school club and assisting with other opportunities for lessons, collective worship and services
- provide practical and administrative support that enables ministry to happen reliably, including communications via email and some social media
- ensure the church provides a safe environment for all and respond appropriately and efficiently to any safeguarding issues that arise
- support volunteers by being a consistent presence, helping new team members settle in, and contributing to a healthy team culture

Person Profile

The post holder should be able to demonstrate the following:

Christian Character and Gifting

This post has an Occupational Requirement for the post holder to be a mature, baptised, Spirit-filled Christian who has:

- a sense of calling by God into this role
- the willingness to be a fully committed member of Vine Church, committed to its vision and values
- a willingness to work within the structures of the Church of England
- a commitment to their own Christian discipleship, allowing scripture, prayer and fellowship to shape them more into the likeness of Jesus
- a passion for mission and evangelism
- a heart to serve others
- a love of children and young people, with a desire to see them grow as disciples of Christ

Personal Qualities

The person appointed should:

- be warm, reliable and able to build trust with children, young people and parents
- be organised and dependable, able to follow through on preparation and tasks

- enjoy working with other Christians and collaborating as part of a team alongside people that have different gifts and backgrounds, including supporting volunteers
- be self-aware, honest and open, and committed to continual personal and professional development
- embody a healthy sense of fun

Qualifications, Education and Experience

Essential:

- previous paid or volunteer experience working with Under 18s in a church or community setting
- experience of missional activities
- knowledge of safeguarding principles and procedures (although training in this will be provided)

Desirable but not required:

- previous schools experience
- experience supporting volunteer teams
- an understanding of the Church of England

Skills

The person appointed should:

- communicate well with children and young people, both inside and outside the church, contributing confidently to session delivery
- have strong, written and verbal communication skills, including a confidence with IT
- have an ability to work under pressure
- be able to maintain confidentiality where appropriate
- be able to work under pressure at busy moments within sessions

People Links

The Children & Youth Support will:

- be directly responsible to the Church Leaders through the Children & Youth Lead
- play an appropriate role in wider staff team rhythms as agreed

Additional Details

The role is a fixed term contract, however the church would hope to extend the role if funding allows.

The post is up to 12 hours per week, with occasional flexibility required around certain seasons such as Christmas and Easter, and school requests. Some of this role will take place outside of normal school hours (e.g. the evening Youth Group).

An enhanced DBS check is required for this post.

Holiday entitlement will be pro rata. This allowance is inclusive of public and bank holidays. Leave can be taken at mutually agreed times.

You must have permission to work in the UK to apply for this post.

The post holder must be an active communicant member of the Church of England, or a full member of a church belonging to Churches Together in Britain² and Ireland or the Evangelical Alliance or similar. This post is exempt under paragraph 3 of Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010. The Diocese of Durham supports and promotes the aims of the Church of England.

Personal data will be processed in line with Vine Church's privacy policy.

Completion of Church of England safeguarding training (Basic Awareness and Foundations, and Leadership if required for the role) is mandatory and must be renewed in line with diocesan policy.

Please note: this is an outline role description and may be developed or altered as the post develops.

² <https://cte.org.uk/about/whos-who/member-churches/>