

## The Coggeshall Prentice Youth Work Trust

### Job Title: Full Time Christian Youth Worker

37 hours per week – flexible to include some evenings and weekend work

The main purpose of the post is to continue to help the Christian Churches in Coggeshall to develop Christian youth work in the town, the schools and surrounding areas, providing young people within the community with activities, which they will find interesting, absorbing and entertaining and through which they can learn about life, citizenship and the Christian faith.

To achieve this broad objective the primary responsibilities will be:

1. To grow opportunities for young people to worship; in partnership with clergy and laity of the churches.
2. To organise and lead a variety of clubs and activities which engage with young people, dealing with topical and relevant issues, and making connections with the Christian faith.
3. To motivate and engage local church congregations with issues which affect young people today and to maintain and enable the pool of volunteers to work with the youth worker.
4. To nurture young Christians to help them develop their faith, encouraging them to become confident about their faith.
5. To work in liaison with Coggeshall's two schools, the Honywood Community School and St. Peter's C of E Primary School, and other local schools and parishes, where possible, offering time as part of Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) development.

It is important that all these strands be complementary, one with another so that they are contributing to the main purpose of the post.

### 1. Job Description.

\*To play an active part in the local community, in partnership with the clergy and laity of the churches to foster and develop opportunities for young people to grow in faith.

\* To work mainly with young people in Year 6 upwards, primarily associated with Honywood Community School and St Peter's C of E Primary School, and their families and school staff.

\* To explore ways of providing open youth club facilities for young people who otherwise would spend long periods of time on the streets of the community.

\*To initiate and continue a range of events and outreach activities for young people within the community.

\*To explore the establishment of Christian groups within the schools liaising with appropriate staff.

\*To encourage, resource, nurture and support groups within the community to undertake youth work with children and young people and assist them with the development of new initiatives including young people from all faiths and secular backgrounds.

- \*To encourage and resource the churches in Coggeshall and in the Blackwater and Colne Valley area to undertake youth work either jointly or individually.
- \*To assist in the discipling of young Christians in a church setting.
- \*To encourage young Christians to become involved in youth work amongst their peers.
- \* To encourage the churches in Coggeshall to become involved in and support such projects and events.
- \*To maintain and develop contacts and good working relationships with the leaders and workers of other Christian youth groups in the area.
- \*To be involved in church related tasks in consultation with the clergy and laity, where appropriate.
- \*To liaise with other agencies including Health Care Professionals, Social Services, Community Officers and Police, as appropriate.
- \*To work with the management committee to promote the work of The Coggeshall Prentice Youth Work Trust through church magazines, and to be an advocate for the young people of the town.
- \*To be responsible with the management committee for effective administration, producing reports and papers as required.

## 2. The successful candidate will be:

- \*Line managed by the incumbent of Coggeshall Parish Church or an alternative appointed by the Management Group.
- \*Involved in regular worship, prayer and support as part of the churches in this community.
- \*Supported in their own private prayer and study.
- \*Involved in regular reviews of their work and tasks.
- \*Expected to attend relevant courses and professional development opportunities.
- \*Given the opportunity to attend relevant meetings where appropriate and when time permits.
- \*Encouraged to have outside interests and an external spiritual mentor.

## 3. Person specification.

- \*Demonstrate sensitivity to the needs of young people and have a living Christian faith.
- \*Be able to work effectively in a team and on their own.
- \*Be adaptable to ideas and initiatives.
- \*Demonstrate appropriate and effective styles of working with young people.
- \*Demonstrate excellent communication skills and an ability to share their vision for young people with others.
- \*Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of a range of youth work methods, particularly within the context of Christian communities.
- \*Have a qualification, or suitable experience equivalent to the JNC level 2 for youth and community workers.