

Mission Apprentice

ROLE DESCRIPTION

Date: Feb 2024

To be reviewed 6 months from appointment and 3 yearly thereafter

1 Details of post

Role title :	Mission Apprentice (Children and Families)
Name of benefices:	Fountains Church Bradford/ St Michaels Church Shelf
Episcopal area:	The Episcopal Area of Bradford
Archdeaconry:	Archdeaconry of Bradford
Deanery:	Inner Bradford
Initial point of contact on terms of service:	Archdeacon of Bradford

2 Role Purpose

Mission Apprentice will be employed for 25 hours per week It is anticipated that this will break down as follows:

In the parish:

- At least 76 hours a month in growing Children and Families ministry in two churches (after the first month where the Apprentice will get an opportunity to become familiar with all aspects of parish life). This might include running a Parents and Toddlers group, Messy Church and differing family activities for example.
- 3 hours a month (i.e roughly 1.5 hours a fortnight) in one-to-one meetings with the Vicar of the Parish or designated Supervisor.
- Up to 8 hours a month (i.e a few hours a week) in staff team meetings, where appropriate, learning how to run and respond to needs in a parish.

- 6 hours a month (i.e a day a month) for personal theological, missional, and devotional reading, for some sort of reflective practice e.g writing a blog/writing up a diary/ artwork etc and for playing an active part in the devotional life of the parish.

Outside the Parish:

- 10 hours a month with the other Apprentices / Interns in specialised Missional training including residential meetings with the other Apprentices / Interns each year.
- The training programme will focus on the theology and practice of ministry and mission.
- Over the two years each Apprentice will twice host a presentation of their context and work for their peers on the programme
- There will also be visits to other mission centres to inspire and develop the Apprentices' missional thinking.

Total: 104 hours a month

This training will enable you to not only to learn from their own parish context but also to find out about the other Mission Apprentice parishes. There will be visits to these places throughout the two years. In addition, a network of ordained and lay leaders who have seen growth in new disciples will teach the practical skills they have learnt.

3 Key Working Relationships

Generic

Colleagues, both clergy and lay
Churchwardens
PCC

Specific

Parish Supervisor
Fellow Mission Apprentices and Interns in the Diocese
Diocese's Director of Interns

Future

Leaders of other churches and religious communities

Supportive:

- The Area Dean
- The Archdeacon of Bradford
- The Bishop of Bradford
- The Bishop's Advisers in Evangelism
- Leading your Church into Growth (the course and mentoring)
- Human Resources Manager, Diocesan Office

4 Terms and Conditions

- Appointment will be from March 24 – End of Feb 2026
- Salary: £13728 per annum for 25 hours of work a week
- Expenses will be provided by the PCC

- There will be 25 days annual leave per annum (pro rata) in addition to Bank Holidays. These will need to be negotiated with your Vicar / Supervisor.
- A pension is available through the Church Worker's pension scheme.
- There will be a probationary period of 6 months. This post requires an enhanced DBS disclosure and there is a Genuine Occupational Requirement that the post holder is a practicing Christian.

5 Archdeacon's Comment

Our vision as the Diocese is about equipping confident Christians to live and tell the good news of Jesus Christ. For all of our appointments we are seeking people who have a joyful and confident faith which can inspire a track record of church growth.

We are supporting Resourcing Churches, with a track record of good leadership, financial strength and numerical and spiritual growth, with additional resources and challenging them to take on responsibilities beyond those of being a local parish church. In particular, this is about generous sharing of their resources with other churches (eg in training, events, support, mission teams) and gracious sending of people to revitalise nearby churches, plant into areas of significant new build, or (where they are super parishes) plant into unreached parts of their own parishes, as well as to produce vocations as part of their leadership pipelines. The sharing is generous in seeking to be a resource to others without expectation of return. The sending is gracious in seeking to work with the grain of what is already in the places to which people are sent rather than seeking to impose a model from outside. In some instances a team may be sent temporarily for a period of time to catalyse new growth. In others, a team led by a curate at the end of their curacy may be sent permanently.

To enable them to fulfill these additional responsibilities, we are investing additional resources in the form of mission apprentices / interns, contextual ordinands and curates with the potential to take a team to revitalise a nearby parish. The expectation is of sending out a church planting team and embracing being church planting churches.

Details of the different contexts available can be found in the Brochure.