

Dear Potential Applicant,

I'm delighted to share with you the opportunity to join our team here at Holy Trinity, Tarleton and St. Mary the Virgin, Rufford, as our new Ignite Youth Worker.

Our churches are located in the heart of beautiful Lancashire, serving the vibrant communities of Tarleton, Rufford, and the surrounding villages. We have a growing ministry to children and young people, with programs like Diamond Disciples for younger children, Impact 412 for our teens, and regular activities in our local primary and secondary schools.



Our clergy team consists of myself, Rev'd Canon Mark Soady, appointed as Rector in March 2020 during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, and Fr. Joe Kochanski, our Curate. Together, we are dedicated to shepherding this community, nurturing faith, and reaching out to the local area. Before becoming the parish priest here, I served as the Area Dean and Vicar of Abergavenny & Rector of Llanwenarth Citra. I also have a background in psychiatric nursing and founded the Hollywell Community. My previous experience includes working in the Royal Army Chaplain's Department during which time I worked with both young soldiers and teenagers in the Army Cadet Force. I was founding Chaplain at the University of Wales (Newport).

Fr. Joe brings a wealth of pastoral experience and has a deep commitment to supporting young people and families in their spiritual journeys. Together, we lead this community with a heart for outreach and growth.

At the heart of our mission and witness is the worship of God. In fulfilling the commandments of Jesus Christ, we seek to be a Eucharist-centred community where people of all ages are able to participate fully in the Body of Christ.

This is a community where we desire to see people grow in their faith, deepen their connection with Jesus, and actively serve in the world around them.



To connect with more children and families and give them opportunities to encounter Jesus, we need someone who feels called to this ministry and has the passion, skills, and personality to step in and lead our children's and family work. While we're not expecting perfection or years of experience, we are looking for someone with a heart for children, families, and Jesus—someone who is ready to make an impact and be part of our community's growth.

We are truly blessed with a strong foundation for youth ministry, and we are excited to see the impact a dedicated Ignite Youth Worker will have. With your passion for Christ and youth ministry, you will have the opportunity to help us reach more young people and families in the community, build new relationships, and grow the ministry even further.

We have an ambitious vision for the future: to see young people actively participating in church life, being disciplined, and growing as followers of Jesus.



We are excited to see how God is calling you to bring your creativity, experience, and energy to develop new initiatives, deepen relationships with schools, and help our children's, youth and families ministry thrive.

If you are someone who has a heart for young people, a passion for helping them grow in their faith, and a desire to be part of a Eucharist-centred church, we would love to hear from you. We are prayerfully excited to see how God will use you in this role, and we look forward to welcoming a new member to our team.

If you'd like to find out more about the church, parish, diocese, vision, or me, you are so welcome to get in contact and/or arrange to visit us in person. I hope to hear from you soon.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Canon Mark Soady
Rector

Telephone: 07968 753978
Email: rector@rsmtht.church



Role	Youth Co-ordinator (KS2-4)
Accountable to	Holy Trinity, Tarleton, Parochial Church Council
Reporting to	Rector (Rev'd Canon Mark Soady)
Salary	£27,000 to £31,000 based on experience. A house is not provided with the post. Initial appointment is subject to a 6-month probationary period.
Holiday entitlement	20 days annual leave in addition to bank holidays. Our expectation is that the majority of this time would be taken in school holiday time.
Training entitlement	The PCC will agree a per annum budget towards ongoing training once the training needs of the post-holder are established.
Hours	37.5 hours a week (flexibility to fulfil the role, including some evening and weekend work, is required).
Normal Place of Work	The post holder will be based at Holy Trinity Church, Tarleton. The nature of the role will require travel around the benefice. An element of remote working may be possible if agreed with the Rector. The role holder will need to attend training sessions held within the diocese.

Context

The Benefice of Tarleton and Rufford includes the churches of Holy Trinity, Tarleton, and St. Mary the Virgin, Rufford, and serves the nearby villages of Mere Brow, Holmeswood, and Sollom. The Benefice is home to three Church of England primary schools and has a growing presence in the local Church of England high school. The clergy also serve as part of the chaplaincy team for the local high school.

In recent years, there has been significant growth in the ministry to children and young people, with various age-appropriate programs and initiatives already in place. These include the weekly collective worship in primary and secondary schools, a well-established children's group (Diamond Disciples) for Key Stage 2, a youth group (Impact 412) for young teens, and regular Sunday School and All-Age Worship services. The church also runs initiatives like Choir Church and Forest Church in collaboration with the schools, and prepares young people for confirmation each year.

Despite this active ministry, the parish recognizes the need to invest further in youth work, particularly for young people aged 11-18, and is prayerfully seeking a youth worker to help build on the foundation already laid. This role is part-funded through a grant from the Diocese of Blackburn and will play a key part in expanding the reach and impact of the church's ministry to children, young people, and families

We are looking for someone who / Aims

- Loves Jesus, children, young people, and their families, and has a passion for mission and discipleship
- Is enthusiastic about supporting young people in growing their faith, especially in the context of a vibrant Anglican church
- Has experience working with children and youth, particularly in a Christian ministry setting

- Is innovative, creative, and excited to develop new initiatives for youth ministry in a rural setting
- Has experience or an interest in working with volunteers and supporting them in their roles
- Is a strong communicator who can engage children, young people, and families in a variety of settings
- Is comfortable with Eucharistic/Anglo-Catholic worship or open to learning and embracing this tradition
- Has an understanding of the pressures facing young people, particularly in rural settings, and can provide pastoral care
- Is eager to work collaboratively with clergy, volunteers, and local schools to build a strong youth ministry

Duties	
Duties and Responsibilities	<p>As the Ignite Youth Worker, the post-holder will work alongside the Rector and other leaders to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with Young Families: Support the rector by helping to develop initiatives to engage young families more deeply in the life of the church, particularly following baptisms and other key events. Assist in creating opportunities for families to connect with the church and grow in their faith, with a focus on long-term engagement. • Strengthen Relationships with Schools: Foster relationships with the three local Church of England primary schools and the local Church of England and state high schools. Establish a regular presence in these schools through activities such as lunch-time clubs, Christian Unions, assemblies, and partnerships in RE teaching. • Support Sunday School: Assist in planning a Christ-focused, Biblically-centred curriculum for Sunday School and provide guidance in the recruitment, training, and support of volunteers to ensure the ministry's sustainability. • Develop Youth Groups: Support and grow the two existing youth groups, Diamond Disciples (KS2 children) and Impact 412 (young teens), ensuring they meet the spiritual and social needs of the young people. Develop strategies for increasing attendance and depth of engagement over the next five years. • Encourage Participation in Residential Events: Explore opportunities for young people to attend diocesan and national youth events, providing experiences for spiritual growth and deeper discipleship. Foster a culture of participation in wider church events and spiritual development beyond the parish. • Incorporate Uniformed Organizations: Work with local uniformed organizations (e.g., Scouts, Guides) to involve them more fully in the worship and life of the church. Encourage ongoing involvement in church events throughout the year, building stronger connections with these groups. • Innovate All-Age Worship: Contribute fresh ideas for All-Age Worship services, ensuring they are engaging, inclusive, and relevant for all generations. Help to increase young people's participation in these services, fostering a sense of belonging for families and youth.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish New Ministries: Establish and lead new initiatives aimed at reaching children and young people who are not currently involved in the church. This includes creating monthly events for those without a faith background and bi-monthly events aimed at nurturing the growing faith of those already engaged. • Safeguarding: Ensure that all activities and ministries involving children and young people are carried out in accordance with the parish's safeguarding policies, including DBS checks, safeguarding training, and best practices for creating a safe environment for ministry. • Volunteer Support and Development: Recruit, train, and support volunteers to help with children's and youth ministry, ensuring that there is a strong and sustainable team of leaders. Foster a sense of ownership among volunteers and empower them to take on leadership roles. • Worship Leadership and Participation: Encourage young people to be actively involved in worship as readers, altar servers, intercessors, and in other roles, deepening their discipleship and sense of belonging. Lead and contribute to youth-led services and activities. • Collaboration and Teamwork: Work closely with the Rector, other clergy, church leaders, and volunteers to ensure the ongoing development of children's and youth ministry. Participate in regular planning meetings, prayer sessions, and spiritual reflection.
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Person Specification	
Education and Training	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good standard of written English (GCSE English Language or equivalent). • Excellent knowledge of safeguarding
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A qualification in youth work, theology, or ministry at degree or equivalent level.

Experience	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An active member of a Christian church with a personal living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. <p><i>*Given the nature and context of the work, it is an occupational requirement that the post holder should be a communicant member of the Church of England or a full member of a church within Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, in order to fulfil the main purpose of the post. This post is therefore exempt under Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of leading children's or youth ministry, particularly in a church setting – even if only in a volunteer role.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of leading and supporting volunteer teams, experience in a rural parish context.

Knowledge and Skills	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear understanding of children's and youth ministry, with a focus on outreach, discipleship, and engagement. • Knowledge of safeguarding best practices.

Qualities	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strong Christian faith, the ability to engage and inspire young people, excellent communication skills, and the ability to work independently as well as in a team.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Creativity in developing new ministry initiatives and the ability to relate effectively to young people, families, and volunteers.
Other – Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role will be subject to an enhanced DBS check and regular safeguarding training. • Commitment to engage in spiritual development.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to appropriate transport for travel within the area.

Terms and Conditions

- In accordance with Blackburn Diocesan requirements, Tarleton Holy Trinity PCC has adopted the diocesan safeguarding and safer recruitment policies.
- The role will be subject to a six-month probationary period.
- Notice Period: During the probationary period one week's notice of termination of employment will be required on either side, thereafter increasing to 8 weeks' notice.
- The post is subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- Safeguarding: we are committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults. All post holders and volunteers are expected to share this commitment and undertake the Diocesan Safeguarding training course.
- Right to Work Check: the successful candidate will need to provide documents to show their eligibility to work in the UK.
- Pension Information: a pension of 8% is applicable to this role, consisting of a 3% employer contribution and a 5% employee contribution.
- Note, this Job Description does not form part of your Contract of Employment.

How to Apply

To apply for this role, please complete an application form and forward it to the Rector:
rector@rsmtht.church

Closing date for application will be Friday, 16th May 2025. Shortlisted candidates will be invited to participate in an interview on Friday, 23rd May 2025.