

**St Michaels Church,
Stoke Gifford**



**STUDENTS &
YOUNG ADULTS
OUTREACH
ASSISTANT**



WHO WE ARE.

St Michael's Church, Stoke Gifford has been around since the fourteenth century. Our central vision as a church community is *"Living to make a difference by being a Christian heart at the centre of the community"*

Our strategy for making this vision a reality has three vital themes:

- **Discipleship** - Growing as followers of Jesus
- **Outreach** - Sharing our the good news we have experienced
- **Serving the Community** - Living out our faith in everyday practical ways that make a difference locally and globally

THE HISTORY:

As a church we have had been investing in Students & Young Adults work for almost 10 years in the north Bristol region working and supporting the University of West England which has over 30,000 students attending each year.

However in the last few years we have really built momentum in the students and young adults ministries and it is vital that we continue and grow this momentum. We have been really developing and growing the links between Students and Young Adults work and as a result, support needed for this ministry has grown from the help of volunteers to us now looking for a part time paid role.

THE VISION:

Our vision for the Students and Young Adults Outreach Assistant role springs from the Bristol Diocesan vision of engaging younger generations and training new leaders. The role will be working closely with the Students and Young Adults Outreach worker to grow and run the students and young adults ministry.

Recent research showed that less than 2% of people within Churches are aged 18-30 which is a significant drop since the last data in 2009 which showed it to be 11%. It is often referred to as the 'Missing Generation'.

Therefore as a church we want to reach, grow and journey with Students & Young adults (18-30s) to become all that God has called them to be! We are passionate to see students and young people become leaders and game changers in our nation and the world.

THE AIMS:

- **Discipleship:** To build and grow relationships within the parish of those in the 'Missing Generation' (18-30s) through life groups, mentoring and social events.
- **Outreach:** To strengthen and maintain the link with the University of West England (UWE) and the Christian Union
- **Serving the Community:** To support the ongoing ministry on the Cheswick housing estate alongside the cheswick team.



THE AIMS EXPANDED:

Discipleship:

- The candidate will also be a part of St Michael's Church, helping to equip and train young leaders in the Church which a view to building the team. The candidate will support the Outreach worker in having a specific focus on discipling, encouraging and equipping the young adults at St Michael's and helping them discover the difference that Jesus can make in their lives and the difference that they can make to the world.
- As part of the role they would be expected to be part of the team that will support, help plan and help to lead the 'Missing Generation' Conference with support from the Vicar, Students & Young Adults worker and the Youth Minister. This has been started up in partnership with local churches within Bristol with the aim to for Church leaders and those who are 18-30s to come together, worship and partner with each other to reach the missing generation within our Churches and communities.

Current activities include:

- Weekly Mentoring
- Weekly Student Life Group
- Student adoption by church families
- Student & Young Adults Weekend Away
- Opportunities for Student to lead in the church.

Outreach & Events:

- Early conversations with the developers of Cheswick Village, Redrow, determined that community engagement was not a priority for them. The Church's involvement in community engagement was therefore received as a significant asset by developers and South Gloucestershire Council.

- The University of the West of England (UWE) is located next to Cheswick with a large number of students living on campus and in the surrounding area. We engage with students and young adults in this area through events at Boston Tea Party, supporting UWE CU and the development of small communities of young adults.
- One of the key parts of this ministry is running a stand during freshers fair to invite students to St Michael's. This can be through sharing a stand or helping out with the Fusion: Student Link Up search stand. It would be the responsibility of the person in the role to organise and run this. As well as running an stall at the UWE Christian union church search event at the beginning of term.

Current activities include:

- Monthly Meals hosted by Church Families
- Weekly Pub trips after church
- Termly Trips and Event out
- Email contact with Students connected through church search & student link up

Serving the Community:

- Together, we are growing our activities to serve the community, enable young adults to grow in their faith and to reach out with the gospel to the 'younger generation' on Cheswick. We continue look at ways to make the community on Cheswick aware of the activities at St Michael's.

Current activities include:

- Delivering Christmas Cards to community alongside church members
- Getting involved with local charitable activities e.g. Operation Christmas Child, Food bank and sharing God's love with rough sleepers.
- Encouraging S&YA to serve in other areas of church
- Supporting UWE Christian Union practically, prayerfully and financially.



OUTCOMES & IMPACT:

- The most important outcome and impact of this role is that students and young adults would come to know Jesus and experience his love.
- Growing the culture of inclusion & outreach to the 'missing generation' within and outside of the Church. Developing leadership within those that are already part of the church and releasing them to reach their friends and neighbours with the gospel in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- To have grown and deepened the links and relationships on the Cheswick estate with the view to having a more permanent presence on the estate.
- For the students & Young adults to have had the opportunity to lead, grow and meeting with God.
- That the role would grow and the person taking over the role would grow the vision for it with God's help, allow opportunities for students and young adults in the missing generation to meet with God for the first time or afresh.

ROLE EXPECTATIONS:

- Become a fully engaged member of St Michael's church, participating in Sunday worship and if possible join a life group for support and growth.
- Work alongside the Student & Young Adults Outreach Worker.
- Work alongside the church staff team and others, to fulfil our vision of "living to make a difference" and the outworking of the church's strategy of "discipleship, outreach and serving the community."
- Meet for regular prayer and worship with staff team and for weekly staff meetings.
- Adhere to and enforce St Michael's safeguarding policy throughout all our work with young people.
- Network with other student ministries across the area e.g "Fusion training" in Bristol.
- Get involved in serving 'behind the scenes' for various church activities.
- To work as part of a team, but also be self-motivated and work with your own initiative

T&C'S:

- St Michael's will pay for your New Wine Discipleship Course fees
- Resources & travel expenses covered
- Accommodation with church family provided (if wanted/ needed)
- Payment of NWDC Mission Trip fees
- Contract starts 1 September, 2020, finishes Monday 31 August 2021, one month's probation period
- Role reviewed annually with potential to extend up to Aug 2023.
- The role will not be formerly offered until the preferred candidate has undergone a DBS check.