

SOUTHWARK

◆ CATHEDRAL ◆

Youth Xpress Leaders

On Sunday mornings, the Cathedral offers children and young people structured worship and learning within the Cathedral community.

Junior Xpress is for primary school aged children.

YouthXpress is for young people from the age of 11, and meets monthly in the Library.

A typical Sunday session looks like this:

10.45am start

Breakfast

Begin with: One thing you have been grateful for this week

Activity 1: Introduce theme - a game, a questionnaire – something fun

Activity 2: Discussion around theme

Activity 3:

End in time to return to church for Holy Communion.



What would you do?

- Volunteer within a team of leaders and assistants.
- Welcome the young people, ensure the Register is filled in, then lead the session.
- At the end of the session, take the young people into church for Communion, staying with them as a group until the service ends.
- The leaders may need to return to the Library after worship to complete clearing up.

What we are looking for?

- **Youth Express Leaders** – Ability to engage and connect with young people to help them grow spiritually, emotionally and socially
- Excellent communicator, conveying Christian approach in a relatable and engaging manner
- Organised and clear-thinking to ensure a well organised and structured youth programme
- Open-minded, imaginative, creative and adaptable in finding ways to discuss contemporary Christian ethical and moral issues
- Collaborative as part of a wider church community including other volunteers, clergy and congregation

- Leaders are regular worshipping members of the Cathedral congregation with the skills, temperament and background to assist the young people in their learning and worship. Leaders are neither parents nor schoolteachers, but should be able to establish a friendly, creative and supportive relationship with the children and ideally with their parents.
- Theological training is not essential, but familiarity with Christian faith, liturgy and the Christian Year and a willingness to pray with the children and to be a role model are expected.
- A willingness to be flexible, covering other team members' duties when needed, is desirable.
- We require a commitment of at least four Sundays per year.

Application process

- Potential volunteers are given a copy of the role description and are asked to complete a short application form.
- References are requested on return of the application form.
- Invitation to attend an informal chat where potential volunteers will have the opportunity to ask questions.
- Leaders are subject to Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks.
- A recruitment decision will be made (dependent on references and results of DBS checks) and if the applicant is suitable a start date will be agreed.

Training, induction and support

Most leaders begin as assistants and learn what is required by working alongside an experienced leader.

There is a termly planning meeting with the Sub Dean. Online resources are available with material for each session. Occasional diocesan courses are also available. Leaders are supervised by the Sub Dean.

The appointment will be for 3 years renewable by mutual agreement and subject to a short probationary period.

Other information

There will always be two members of the team on duty for each session who each commit to one Sunday a month.

Youth Xpress leader and assistant should arrive soon after 10.30am in order to ensure that all is ready and welcoming for the young people arriving before 11.00am.

If you have any questions please contact the Sub Dean and Canon Pastor Michael Rawson on Michael.Rawson@southwark.anglican.org.

If you wish to apply please download the application form on the volunteer webpage and send the completed form to Cathedral.Volunteers@southwark.anglican.org.