

# ABC ROLE DESCRIPTION

## HEAD OF YOUTH MINISTRY

**Job Title:** Head of Youth Ministry

**Term of Employment:** Permanent, 35 hours per week, evening and weekend work.

**Role Location:** Above Bar Church, Southampton

**Reports To:** Director of Operations

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### Vision and values of the church

Above Bar Church exists to glorify God by seeking to make and mature disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

Together, we are committed to becoming increasingly:

- *God-dependent* – expressed in prayer and expectation of the Spirit's work
- *Bible-centred* – in our ethos and activities
- *Mission-focused* – locally, nationally and internationally
- An *authentic* community of people from many backgrounds who love and nurture each other as disciples of Christ.

We pursue these values and priorities believing that God wants to bless us as his people in order to make us a blessing across our city, within the wider church and across the world.

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### Youth ministry within Above Bar Church

- At Above Bar Church, we really want our youth work (and church as a whole) to be a place where young people find Jesus, discover that he is better than anything else and learn to let him take centre stage in their lives.
- Our desire is that the teaching enables all young people to engage with the Bible, church and world; and that grows young people as followers of Jesus. We believe our groups should be open and welcoming and supportive of young people who are on the fringe or unsure in their faith.
- We think youth groups should be vibrant, good fun and a place where young people build lasting relationships with other young people and the youth team and feel confident to invite and bring their friends along.
- Our youth sessions seek to address difficult questions and help young people to answer them for themselves. We value good biblical teaching and give opportunity for young people to explore together what the Bible teaches.
- We believe that the role of parents in the discipleship of their children is very significant and as a church we want to support parents in this role.
- We believe it's key that young people are integrated within the wider church family, and have opportunities to serve.
- We are working and praying so that when young people leave Above Bar Church, they are able to stand firm in their own faith, being able to give a reason for the hope they have; having a personal relationship with Jesus.

We're looking for a candidate that shares our convictions about Youth Ministry and is able to further develop the ministry in conjunction with the Leadership Team and in line with the vision and values of the church.

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## Role Summary

The post holder is responsible for:

- Developing and leading the Youth Ministry (11-18ys) in a manner which fulfils the church's vision, is consistent with its values and priorities (see above) and has the support of the wider Leadership Team.
- Teaching the Bible in a way that enables all young people to engage with what is being taught, such that they can understand how to read it for themselves, have a personal faith and live as a disciple of Jesus wherever they are.
- Helping integrate families into church life and supporting them in their walk with God.
- Leading a team of volunteers who have a passion for young people and ensures that the vision and strategy for the Youth Ministry is effectively fulfilled.
- Overseeing and developing all aspects of Youth Ministry including the teaching programme and events.
- Working closely with the Head of Children's Ministry in establishing cohesion between the ministries; working together to support parents in the discipleship of children and young people.
- Developing an open and welcoming culture across the groups, so that both believers and non-believers feel connected. Invest time with those on the fringe or young people who are unsure in their faith.

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## Relationships

The post holder will:

- Be line managed by the Director of Operations
- Participate in the Families Strategy Group in medium and long-term planning
- Lead the youth team
- Partner with the Head of Children's Work
- Work alongside parents, for the benefit and spiritual development of their children.
- Be provided with a mentor or support group to assist with their own spiritual and professional development.

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## Essential functions and responsibilities

- Build relationships with young people; invest time in supporting them in their personal discipleship.
- Develop the key programmes in line with the vision: youth clubs, open homes, weekend away, Sunday groups, socials and 1-1's.
- Provide leadership and direction to the youth teams and ministry; coordinate, support and develop teams of volunteers who can help young people to grow in their relationship with Jesus.
- Train and equip the young people to find their place and play their part in fulfilling the mission of God.
- Encourage both the youth team and young people to grow in whole life discipleship.
- Plan studies and other activities for young people.

- Develop opportunities for young people to integrate with the wider church and find their place to serve.
- Ensure that scripture is taught, applied and handled correctly by the youth team, investing in team development, feedback and training.
- Pray for the work, and model a life of Christian discipleship.

It is recognised that this job description will change over time as the role develops and as the post-holder works with other team members. Accordingly, this job description will be reviewed regularly as part of our on-going appraisal system.

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## Other duties and responsibilities

- Further develop our ministry, whether with schools or parents' support in line with personal gifting and the direction and support of the strategy group and Leadership Team.
- Ensure smooth transitions – between children's and youth ministry, and preparing young people to move on to work or university.
- Agree and work through all recommendations from the Head of Safeguarding, be a member of the safeguarding team.
- Serve on the All-age service planning team.
- Contribute to the wider ministries of the church through meetings such as ministry team, staff team, service leading.
- Any other duties within the remit of the post as directed by the line manager.

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## Person Specification

### **Personal Qualities/Temperament:**

- a prayerful, committed Christian with evangelical convictions and good biblical understanding
- passionate about spending time with, teaching and discipling young people
- has a demonstrable love and concern for young people
- enthusiastically affirms our church's basis of faith and is supportive of our vision, values and practices
- has a strong commitment to team working and relational styles of ministry
- creative and servant-hearted, able to co-operate and communicate with others of all responsibility levels
- willingness to be committed to the Above Bar Church family
- possesses personal integrity
- has an open and teachable attitude, with a desire to continue to develop and a desire to grow in character as well as gifting.

### **Aptitude/Skills:**

- is gifted in communicating the Bible effectively with young people
- a strong commitment to youth ministry
- experience in youth ministry, ideally with a relevant undergraduate qualification
- have experience in leading teams
- able to lead, motivate and organise a team
- able to take responsibility for existing areas of ministry
- a self-starter
- a good team player

- able to delegate, prioritise, plan and complete tasks on time
- committed to training people for ministry
- able to implement change
- a personable and effective communicator who is able to handle challenging interactions in a godly manner
- able to operate a personal computer, standard office software (MS Office), and access the internet.