

What are we doing?

Every Sunday evening, the youth group leaders & volunteers meet at 5:30pm. We talk about the prayer requests of the young people and then we pray for them until 6pm.

Our youth group starts at 6pm and lasts until 7:30pm. In that time, we have a bible study which is led by one of the leaders, games, and activities as well as a time of prayer with the young people.

We are also mentoring the young people by meeting with them every two weeks for an hour or so, and coach them spiritually. We offer advice to their problems, but we mainly listen. As a team we decide who is mentoring whom, and it is the leader's responsibility to share concerns with the current youth leader (**Pascal**).

What are the qualities of a youth leader?

A youth leader is living a Christ-centred life, as they are passionate about Christ AND sharing that passion with young people. They would want to help young people grow into spiritually healthy young adults and guide them in their spiritual growth. A youth leader should be a good example to the young people, someone who comes regularly to church, and who spends time with young people when they see them.

They serve the young people with an encouraging and positive attitude. They are honest in their opinion and do not lie to the young people, neither are they insincere.

However, a youth leader should not pretend to know all the answers and should not be afraid to say: "I don't know." They encourage young people to explore and use their spiritual gifts, by actively trying to give them an opportunity to use them.

Recruitment:

Before starting to serve as a youth leader, the volunteer needs to have provided one reference that supports their spiritual health as well as their experience in working with young people.

The volunteer must undergo a Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check which can be arranged at no personal cost through the church.

Time Commitment:

Before serving as a new youth leader, the youth leadership agrees with the volunteer on how many hours they want to serve, with a minimum of 5 hours and a maximum of 16 hours a month.

See guide below

2 hours on a Sunday: prayer (5:30pm – 6pm), and afterwards for the youth group (6pm – 7:30pm).

If being asked to mentor; 1 hour every second week, as well as half an hour every week for mentoring training sessions. Every mentor will meet up with a young person of the same gender for an hour or so every second week. They must keep a report of what has been discussed and share with current youth leader (**Pascal**) every two months. Important concerns must be shared immediately.

1 Hour each week: As a leader you will be asked to lead a bible study or a game/activity from time to time, so you need time to prepare. This is not a group where you can just "wing it": you need to think about how you want to lead and what props you need.

Training/Support:

Every two years all the youth leaders are required to complete a level 2 Safeguarding course, as well as a Child Protection course.

All the youth leaders who are part of the mentoring scheme, are required to attend the mentoring training sessions, which are held once a week for half an hour.

New youth leaders will not be asked to mentor a young person until they have served for 6 months within the youth ministry. A junior leader will have a mentor assigned to them and they are to meet every two weeks.

New leaders will not be asked to lead a youth group session on their own until the youth leadership agrees upon it. New leaders are to observe and to become familiar with the group. They will be asked to co-lead before leading by themselves.

Expenses:

Check with the current youth leader (**Pascal**) if you need to buy something for the youth group. If the expenditure is approved, he will make sure that you get your expenses back from the church.

Confidentiality:

From time to time, it is very likely that a young person will confide a secret or a problem with you. If the young person asks, never promise to keep a secret. We are responsible for the young people and they might tell you something that is harming them. If you are concerned about something they said, share it with the current leader (**Pascal**) and he will discuss with you what the next steps will be. However, do not share widely what young people confide in you.

What happens when things go wrong:

If you notice that someone is doing something wrong, or if you did something wrong, we expect you to speak to the current leader (**Pascal**) as soon as possible. Please do not confide with others even if it is really tempting.

The current leader (**Pascal**) will decide if you should do something or if he will deal with a situation. If necessary, the pastor or the child protection lead (Geoff Lawson) will be consulted.