

BRADFORD MISSION APPRENTICES

Growing Missional Leaders
2023-25



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds

GROWTH FOR YOU AND LOCAL CHURCHES

This role will give you the amazing opportunity to explore more of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and grow as a leader of mission in a local church.

For two years we will give you skills that will equip you for life, work, mission and leadership, and the opportunity to use and develop them in a local church setting.

It's a two-year long adventure giving you the experience of leadership and service, learning alongside a community of other Mission Apprentices.

YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Key to this being two successful and enriching years for you will be the development of your relationship with God.

You will have time to be with God, be encouraged to find new and different ways of engaging with Him both on your own and as you share this journey with others in your church, parish and learning community. This will also involve you gaining leadership experience and developing transferable work skills in your church context.

Your training will include biblical studies, theology and leadership, and there will be plenty of opportunities to step out from your comfort zone, be stretched and challenged and discern God's calling for you for the future.



YOUR KINGDOM POTENTIAL

Through your time with us you will develop new learning habits and disciplines that will help you as you follow Jesus. You will have the opportunity to learn a variety of skills as our Resource and Resourcing churches grow, share generously and send graciously. Who knows but by the end of the two years maybe you will feel called to go with a new church planting team, or move into the business community or into further education. Everything is possible with God.

A MISSION APPRENTICE WEEK

A typical week may look like this:

- Two to three days serving in your placement (including Sunday);
- Monday mornings training with the Mission Apprentice learning community;
- Time for study, reflection and line management;
- Two to three days available for other work, study or recreation;
- A day of rest.

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The Mission Apprentice role is great because it gives you the opportunity to experience lots of different aspects and roles involved in working for the church.

You get to meet and work with some amazing people and grow as a person and closer to God whilst doing so.

Lucinda, Mission Apprentice



FINANCE

The role runs from September 2023 to August 2025 with a salary of £12.5k per annum for 20 hours of work a week. We will cover the cost of your training and weekends away. Expenses will be paid as agreed in advance. There will be 25 days annual leave per annum (pro rata) in addition to Bank Holidays. These will need to be agreed with your line manager.

PLACEMENTS

Your main focus will be working for one of the 20 churches participating in the Mission Apprentice scheme, which will provide opportunities to get involved in many different activities. We want you to be able to take responsibility for growing an area of church life, ministry or mission over the two years and will work with you, your particular gifts and sense of calling to identify the best place and way for you to serve.

SUPPORT

You will be supported by your line manager and the leadership team of the parish in which you are serving. We will encourage and support you in finding a mentor to provide additional support. For your training you will also be supported by the Diocesan Director of Interns.



EXPECTATIONS



Mission Apprentices are expected to commit to each aspect of the programme:

- giving of their best as they serve in their placement church
- supporting and encouraging their fellow mission apprentices
- engaging with the weekly training programme.
- adhering to the Code of Conduct.

LEARNING COMMUNITY

Each week in term time you will gather for a morning of learning, training, worship and prayer with the rest of the Mission Apprentices. The sessions will be led by expert practitioners and leaders.

The majority of teaching will be at the Bradford Learning hub, but monthly you will gather with interns from across the Diocese.

The **weekly training** gives you opportunity to reflect, discuss and to have input from a wide variety of speakers on varying aspects of mission, discipleship, church growth and leadership.

Examples of topics covered include:

Discipleship and the Kingdom of God **Spiritual Disciplines**
Encountering God in the Old and New Testaments
Leadership **Worship** **Preaching** **Apologetics**
Pastoral Care **Challenging questions.**

There will also be **residentials** over the two years as an opportunity to experience God's presence, deepen your roots of faith further and strengthen your understanding of the Bible (the residentials will be free and you will be expected to attend them).

Much of the training also happens **on the ground** as you serve in different ministries, trying out new things, taking on responsibilities and seeing God at work in you and through you.



OVERVIEW OF THE CHURCHES

Each Resource / Resourcing church has its own unique qualities but all have a shared goal of **generous sharing** of their resources with other churches (e.g. in training, events, support, mission teams) and **gracious sending** of people to revitalise nearby churches, or plant into unreached areas of their own parish as well as to produce vocations as part of their leadership pipelines.

The **placement churches** are Resource or Resourcing Churches, or churches linked with them:

Fountains Church Bradford, our City Centre **Resource Church**, linked with the parishes of Frizinghall and Shelf with Buttershaw.

Resourcing Parishes:

- St John's Clayton, linked with the parishes of Allerton and Fairweather Green
- St John's East Bowling
- Holy Trinity Idle, linked with the parishes of Wrose and Greengates
- St John's Great Horton & St Wilfrid's Lidget Green
- Girlington, Heaton & Manningham (4 churches)
- Keighley Parish (3 churches), linked with Ingrow.



PLACEMENT CONTEXTS

Fountains Church Bradford, with Frizinghall and Shelf with Buttershaw – 1 Mission Apprentice vacancy

Fountains church is a new church plant in Bradford city centre - see our [video](#). We have a wonderful building which was once former nightclubs and is in the process of being regenerated. We have growing congregations: a Sunday afternoon congregation with young people and children's work, a Saturday Gathering for people who are on the margins of society and Wrestling Church. We work as a dynamic team supporting and encouraging each other as we seek to be a church that is 'in of and for Bradford' and to bring the good news of Jesus to the city that we all love.

The **Parish of St Michael's Shelf with St Aidan's Buttershaw** is a mainstream Anglican Church but also has a lot of its population living in outer estate social housing. The challenge we face like many other outer estate areas is hard to reach communities, our estate consists of (largely) white people experiencing a range of forms of deprivation and disadvantage. We have a new priest who has recently joined us and so this is a really exciting time to join the team.

We are looking for a Mission Apprentice to grow our Children and Families ministry in two churches. This might include running a Parents and Toddlers group, Messy Church and differing family activities for example.



Holy Trinity Idle - 1 Mission Apprentice vacancy

Holy Trinity is a thriving growing church in North East Bradford. The church exists right at the heart of our community which presents endless opportunities to build relationships with parishioners of all ages, especially children, young people and families.

We feel strengthened by our experiences during lockdown where we were able to explore new opportunities for missional outreach. We have recently entered into a formal partnership with St Cuthbert's Wrose and St John's Greengates which presents more exciting possibilities.

Our emerging leadership ministry team is supportive, encouraging, creative and hard working and we look forward to discovering God's kingdom plan for His churches in this part of Bradford.

We are seeking a Mission Apprentice to develop our work with children and young people with a focus on St Cuthbert's Wrose.



Clayton, Allerton and Fairweather Green is a Network of churches in West Bradford, from the villages of Clayton and Thornton to the estate areas of Allerton and Fairweather Green and together we are seeking opportunities for revitalization and growth.

St John's Clayton is a thriving resource church, seeking to grow younger, more missional, and act as a resource to local churches. St Peter's Allerton and St Saviour's Fairweather Green are both on a journey of revitalization, exploring how they can grow in strength and numbers to serve their community.

St John's Clayton - 1 Mission Apprentice vacancy

- In September 2023 we will be planting a new worshipping community on the Thornaby Estate in Clayton.
- Working as part of a team, you would play a key role in planting this new community, pioneering new areas of community mission, strengthening existing relationships, and building bridges from community engagement to faith and discipleship.



St Peter's Allerton - 1 Mission Apprentice vacancy

- St Peter's is looking to explore how to reengage with the local community, alongside local Christian organizations in Allerton. One possibility is to plant a fresh expression of church that engages with families and young people.
- Working as part of a team, you would be part of bringing new life to a community, supporting and develop new missional work on the Allerton estate, and exploring how worship can meet local needs.

St Saviour's Fairweather Green - 1 Mission Apprentice vacancy

- St Saviour's values its Modern Anglo-Catholic tradition, so one of the challenges is how to maintain this tradition whilst engaging in an accessible way with the community.
- You would engage with the existing congregation to support and develop new missional work and discipleship; strengthen links with local schools and other community groups; and explore other areas of missional growth.

Girlington, Heaton and Manningham – 2 Mission Apprentice vacancies

This large parish in Inner Bradford offers the opportunity to see church life in a fast-paced multi-cultural inner-city context with significant numbers of asylum seekers and marginalised communities. The growing congregation is young, vibrant and multi-national – and exploring discipleship in a challenging environment. The lively leadership team is pioneering, mutually supportive and Gospel-centred. Its four churches are used during the week for ministries which serve their communities and a key aim for the next few years is to develop new worshipping communities around these ministries.

Possible Mission Apprentice Roles:

We are seeking mission apprentices with a passion for Jesus to come and join this adventure. We want to work with your natural skills and passions to invest them into these life changing projects:

- Helping to explore and develop social enterprise, perhaps around clothing or food, to build bridges with the local communities and help resource the parish;
- Engaging with the parish's Muslim majority population, both adults and youth, including building on existing work with local schools;
- Forming disciples within fragile communities.



Keighley Parish - 1 Mission Apprentice vacancy

Together with St John's Ingrow, the Parish of Keighley includes the whole of the town of Keighley with its four Anglican churches. Key priorities are work in the town centre with people "battered by the storms of life", planting new worshipping communities on the outer estates of the town, and developing work with children, young people and families.

Possible Mission Apprentice Roles:

- Estates MA - Working primarily in Braithwaite within a team currently involved in schools work, community outreach and food provision through our pop-up 'Good Food Shop', we are planting a new worshipping community on the estate this year.
- Children and Family's MA - Working across our different church contexts in the town this role will engage families with faith through after-school church and discipleship groups. This will build on established relationships with key primary schools and will be instrumental in linking families to church.
- Youth well-being MA - Working in partnership with our largest secondary school in the town (Beckfoot Oakbank) this role will reach out to young people struggling with mental health and wider issues. School and church based groups will introduce young people to the difference Jesus can make.



WHAT NEXT?

For an informal chat, please contact **Ven Dr Andy Jolley**, Archdeacon of Bradford on 07973 458403 or Andy.Jolley@leeds.anglican.org

To apply, please fill in the application form which can be found on our [website](#) and send to this to **carmel.dylak@leeds.anglican.org**

The closing date for applications is **the end of April 2024**. Interviews will be held in May.

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The Mission Apprentices scheme is a key way in which we are seeking to develop new leaders, and especially those from and for disadvantaged, challenging communities. Building on lessons from our first two groups of Mission Apprentices, with increased funding from the national church, we're recruiting our largest group yet, and expect to see growth in each individual as well as in their placement churches.

Andy Jolley, Archdeacon of Bradford