



Greater Didcot Christian Children and Youthwork Trust (ECHO) **Post of Youth Worker** **Partner Church: The King's Church Didcot**

Role Description

Terms

This post is a full-time position, initially for two years, the first 6 months of which forms a probationary period. The post is full-time (40 hours per week) and will include evening and weekend work. Salary range £22,000-£25,000pa, depending on experience. Start date: January 2023.

Purpose of post

The post holder will have two core purposes:

- To give leadership to the work of The King's Church, Didcot, amongst youth, helping them to develop a personal relationship with Jesus, know the power of the Holy Spirit in their lives, and learn to feed on the Word of God.
- To serve as part of a team, who together, provide leadership to the work of the Greater Didcot Christian Children and Youthwork Trust, amongst children, youth, and their families, making disciples of Jesus.

The Greater Didcot Christian Children and Youthwork Trust (normally known as ECHO), is a new ecumenical ministry partnership, currently consisting of seven local churches. Its aim is:

'To disciple young people who make disciples through provisions that equip and release young people into mission, evangelism, and discipleship.'

To help realise this aim, **ECHO** is looking to develop a 'Discipleship Hub' where young people can gather, grow in faith, and then go, live this out. Alongside this a number of provisions are also being developed, including e.g., a Youth Café and Sports Outreach, where young people have the opportunity to serve, and the Good News is shared.

The King's Church, Didcot (TKC) is excited to be a part of this partnership, which is an important part of its ministry strategy amongst young people.

TKC is a welcoming community of about 150 people and is an evangelical, charismatic, gospel-focused, community church, passionate about loving God and loving others. It is part a wider charity, Oxfordshire Community Churches, and a member of the Evangelical Alliance.

TKC currently has a vibrant youth group for Years 7-13 which typically takes place on Sunday mornings and some Saturday evenings and includes a mixture of games, activities, and discipleship. Teaching and fun for young people are really important to TKC.

For more information on TKC visit: www.thekingschurchdidcot.org

Work amongst children, youth, and families is part of the core-mission to which God has called us. Working with young people to grow their faith in Christ is a key priority for TKC, ECHO, and all its partner churches.

Our ministry of Christian care and outreach serving families both within the church families and community at large is both an end in itself and an opportunity to build bridges for the un-churched into the life of the church.

The post-holder, as part of a team, will play an important part in the leadership of this, and in the development and delivery of the strategic vision for both TKC and ECHO's work amongst young people. This will include the co-ordination, training, and support of the volunteer leaders across these areas.

An essential requirement for the post-holder is a committed Christian faith which would enable him/her to share the knowledge and love of God through Jesus Christ on the basis of personal experience.

The post-holder will be based in TKC (one of the Partner Churches) and their responsibilities and activities will be divided between the individual Partner Church and the wider work of ECHO. We expect to postholder to be (or become) a committed member of TKC. The proportion of the post-holder's time and any fixed periods/activities are laid out below. Section 1 refers to the work of ECHO in the Greater Didcot area, working between Partner Churches and other churches, organisations, and school. Section 2 refers to work in the individual Partner Church.

Accountability and professional development

The post-holder will be an employee of ECHO and be accountable to their Partner Church Line Manager – the Pastor or Assistant Pastor of TKC.

The post-holder will also be a part of the Greater Didcot Christian Children and Youthwork team, led by the Lead Youth Worker.

The post-holder will engage with the annual appraisal process and other opportunities for spiritual formation and professional development.

Two weeks of paid Study Leave is provided for training, conferences, retreats, network meetings and personal study in discussion with the Line Manager. In addition further training opportunities (e.g. part-time theology or ministry study) may be considered in conjunction with the role.

Necessary equipment and professional expenses will be provided by the Employer.

Duties and responsibilities

Section 1 – 50% Greater Didcot Christian Children and Youthwork Trust (ECHO)

To work in the following areas, in accordance with the strategic priorities and opportunities identified by the Trustees and the Lead Youth Worker

- **Church-based children's and youth groups, clubs and activities**
- **Family-focussed activities and worship**
- **School ministry, e.g. assemblies, lessons, clubs**
- **Community activities, e.g. sport, clubs**

This will include, for example:

- Participating in and contributing to team meetings, devotions, and prayer.
- Planning, preparing, and delivering mission and ministry activities for young people.
- Recruiting, training, supporting, and resourcing volunteers engaged in the work.
- Enabling young people to be active participants in the life of ECHO, through encouraging and nurturing them to be young leaders, and through identifying and creating opportunities for them to serve.
- Communicating about the work of ECHO, for example, providing material for use within online (e.g., the ECHO website) and offline platforms (e.g., printed publications).
- Visiting churches to build relationships, and raise awareness of, and support for, ECHO.
- Engaging with any monitoring, recording, and reporting that may be required e.g., for grant-awarding bodies.
- Engaging in reflective practice and learning, capturing and sharing insights.
- Undertaking any other reasonable duties as identified by the Trustees and the Lead Youth Worker.

Section 2 – 50% The King's Church, Didcot

Below is a list of activities relevant to the post, but these may be varied – in discussion with the Line Manager – depending upon the experience of the post holder, strategic priorities and other relevant circumstances.

Church-based Youth Work

1. **To coordinate, administer, develop and lead the Youth work of TKC** (11-18 years of age) helping, developing, and releasing young people to be disciples of Christ, empowered by the Holy Spirit, so that they mature into full active members of the church by:

- a. Overseeing, developing and playing an active role in Sunday youth work, Missional Communities and other areas
 - b. Providing appropriate pastoral support for the young people.
 - c. Recruiting, coordinating, motivating, training and overseeing a team of volunteer youth workers.
 - d. Identify and develop the gifts and talents of the young people and volunteers and encourage active participation in church life, including youth led services.
 - e. In conjunction with the Local and Regional Designated Safeguarding Lead, ensure that the Oxfordshire Community Churches (charity) Safeguarding Policy and best practice is implemented and adhered to for all youth work at TKC.
- 2. To develop the discipleship and spiritual development of the young people by:**
- a. Praying for the young people, their families and the youth team.
 - b. Providing relevant and accessible teaching for the young people.
 - c. Identifying, training, mentoring and releasing young people into their calling, serving the church and the wider community.
- 3. To represent youth within appropriate forums:**
- a. Consult and work alongside the church leadership team to represent the needs of the young people.
 - b. Be an advocate for youth both within and outside TKC.

Management and Leadership

1. Develop and implement strategy objectives in line with the vision of TKC.
2. Review and evaluate the youth work and the youth team termly and meet your line manager regularly.
3. Propose and manage an annual youth budget in conjunction with your line manager and the TKC Leadership Team.
4. Take an active role within the life of the church, attending the relevant leaders, staff and prayer meetings as agreed with your line manager/leadership team.
5. To co-operate with other local churches, and in particular with ECHO, of which TKC is a Partner Church.

Personal and Professional Development

1. Be responsible for your own spiritual growth in both reading the Bible and praying and take a regular and active part in the worshipping life of The King's Church.
2. Manage your time well, such that you balance the demands of a varied working pattern, which includes evening and weekend work. You will be expected to agree when your leave is taken with your Line Manager. It is anticipated that on Sunday mornings you will mainly be at The King's Church, however, there will be a number of Sundays (approximately six) throughout the year when you will be at other churches as part of your work with ECHO.

3. Seek and attend training that is appropriate and will develop and support you in your role, subject to prior agreement with your line manager.
4. Be in a discipling/pastoral care relationship with The King's Church.
5. Fulfil any other responsibilities appropriate to your role as agreed with the church leadership and your line manager.