

Advertisement and information –

A unique opportunity has arisen to work for New Road Baptist Church, St Columba's United Reformed Church, and Wesley Memorial Methodist Church with students in Oxford.

We are seeking to appoint a committed Christian, who is a creative, imaginative, and suitably qualified person to the position of 'Student Outreach Worker'.

This post is to develop Christian outreach among students in Oxford by leading an existing team of volunteers and maintaining existing community networks and exploring new avenues of contact within the two universities. There is scope to develop wider community links including working with members of the wider church family of all ages.

There is a Genuine Occupational Requirement that the postholder be a practising Christian in sympathy with the Baptist, United Reformed, and Methodist traditions. You should be willing to work with a Management Group, local clergy, and lay people to develop and start a wide range of activities within the churches, the universities, and the community. You should be respectful that each church is committed to a pilgrimage of faith to combat discrimination and give dignity and worth to people whatever their sexuality or gender.

This is a part time, fixed term post. It will be for 18 hours per week for four years, with a salary of £12,000 p.a.

Application closing date: 7 July

Interview date: Week beginning 24 July

Further information is available from our websites: <https://www.newroad.org.uk/>
<https://www.saintcolumbas.org/>
<https://www.wesleymem.org.uk/>

Applications by c.v. and covering letter to be returned to: churchsecretary@saintcolumbas.org

Job Type: part time (18 hrs per week, including some weekend availability)

Job Description

Job Title: Student Outreach Worker

Responsible to: Revd Jon Keyworth, minister of New Road Baptist Church.

Aim: To enable students (undergraduate and postgraduate) to practise and develop their Christian faith, particularly in relation to worshipping at and/or being supported and encouraged in their faith by New Road Baptist Church, St Columba's United Reformed Church, and Wesley Memorial Methodist Church.

Main Responsibilities:

These will be reviewed regularly and monitored in line with jointly agreed annual objectives. We anticipate that there will be periods where a greater focus would be required on particular areas and would therefore keep the scope of the work under continual review.

This job will include, but not be limited to, the following responsibilities.

Student Outreach Work Within the Three Churches

- To be present at worship on as many Sundays as possible at one of New Road Baptist Church, St Columba's United Reformed Church, or Wesley Memorial Methodist Church and to assist in leadership with volunteers.
- To help us understand and put into practice ways in which we can improve the involvement of students from Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University within the church community.
- To work closely with the ministers and elders in pastoral charge of each of the three churches and to review the potential for work among students, led by the churches.
- To maintain strong links with existing groups who work with students at each of the three churches.
- To work with safeguarding leads to ensure that all who work with students have a strong commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

Outreach to the Student Community

- To look at how we three churches present ourselves to the world, particularly the student world, and how we can communicate effectively across varied media (digital and paper).
- To approach other community organisations and groups, in particular student organisations and groups, to help us understand who they support and what their own needs are, and to explore how we might work in partnership.
- To develop a good relationship with chaplains at Oxford University and at Oxford Brookes University.

Your Own Support and Development

- To commit to your own personal spiritual development, including supervision.
- To set aside suitable time for preparation, administration, and ongoing personal and professional development, when required and at appropriate times.
- To identify and participate in relevant training opportunities.
- To keep appropriate records of work, expenses etc.
- To participate in an annual appraisal programme.

Terms and conditions:

Terms of appointment: four years fixed term

The part-time salary will be at full-time equivalent of £24,000 per year

- Normal working pattern: averaging 18 hours per week
- All reasonable expenses will be reimbursed and a small allowance given for on-going training.
- 28 days statutory annual leave entitlement per year (pro-rata for part-time workers).
- Appointment will be subject to a satisfactory Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS) check.
- Appointment will be subject to satisfactory references.
- Appointment will be subject to the satisfactory completion of up to three-month probationary period.

Management:

The Lay Employee's line-manager will be Revd Jon Keyworth, minister of New Road Baptist Church, whose responsibilities will be to:

- Remain informed about the scope of your work.
- Given the breadth of this work, to agree priorities and ensure that your workload is manageable.
- Help you reflect on how and where God is calling you to use your gifts, and to encourage you in your personal development.
- Ensure good communications, and a clarity of purpose in regard to your role, amongst key leaders and across the three churches.
- Monitor and evaluate progress on a regular basis.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Student Outreach Worker

Attribute	Essential	Desirable	Method of assessment
Key educational or training requirements:	Literacy and numeracy in English and Maths	A recognised professional qualification in work with students or youth work or community work or another relevant discipline. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching/Teaching Assistant • Social Work. • Another professional qualification with students • Children & Youth Ministry • Religious Studies (Theology, Mission etc) • Worship Leading or Preaching 	A/Q/I
Experience	Working with all-ages in a church context, but with a particular concern for students Understanding of safeguarding	Adapting learning styles for a varied audience including students for whom English is not a first language/ students with additional needs Co-ordinating and/or running smaller-scale community events for shared-interest groups Working with teams and adapting one's role according to context (for example, supervising, leading, enabling others, taking on a key task.)	A/I A/I A/I

		Involvement in student ministry	A/I
Special knowledge and skills	Experience of using social media for communication and organisational purposes	Proficiency in IT skills. Ability to use email, Microsoft Word, Power Point and Excel	A/I
	Experience of working with other organisations and the local community	Previous work with students	A/I
	Good interpersonal, motivational, organisational, time management and communication skills.	Ability to adapt to changing priorities and circumstances	A/I
	Self-motivation and the ability to motivate others, inspiring and encouraging them to explore and develop their gifts. Ability to work without direct supervision		
Special qualities and aptitudes	Creativity, imagination and willingness to establish and try new things.	Experience of implementing projects	I

	<p>Previous work with students</p> <p>Awareness of and compliance with Data protection, safeguarding, health and safety procedures and requirements.</p> <p>A strong commitment to the Christian faith and a desire to promote that faith in others.</p>	<p>Experience of working and/or worshipping across a range of Christian traditions</p> <p>A sense of vocation to Christian work with students</p>	<p>A/I/R</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I/R</p>
Any other requirements	<p>Committed Christian, regularly attending a local church, whose values reflect those of the Baptist Church, the Methodist Church, and the United Reformed Church, particularly in regard to equality, diversity, and inclusivity, especially in relation to the LGBT community .</p> <p>Commitment to continuing professional development.</p>	<p>Resilience when facing setbacks</p>	<p>A/I/R</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p>

	<p>Commitment to complete all statutory training, with a priority on safeguarding.</p> <p>Willingness to work flexibly, including Sundays, and some evenings</p> <p>Satisfactory DBS Disclosure with a barred list check</p> <p>Ability to liaise with other and explore where fruitful partnerships might lie</p>		<p>Satisfactory DBS</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p> <p>I</p>
Methods of Assessment			
A	I	Q	R
Application	Interview	Proof of Qualification	References