

Mental and Emotional Wellbeing Specialist

Youthscape



Youthscape

We are Christians passionate about seeing positive transformation for all young people.

We are building on a 25 year investment in one place to see real change in the lives of teenagers. We are part of a wider movement of churches and faith organisations working for the good of young people and believe that a renewed local church is key to a better future for teenagers of every background and belief.

At the heart of our work is Bute Mills, our pioneering Luton hub where we meet young people in schools, churches and the community. Research and innovation are core values as we seek to understand youth culture, enabling us to develop new resources and models of youth work and refine established approaches because a rapidly changing culture demands innovative thinking and practice.

We then share what works nationally through events, training, consultancy and resources. Our resources for youth work include our conference the National Youth Ministry Weekend; a weekly podcast; the Open Me series of devotionals for youth workers; a comprehensive annual programme of training and a range of innovative resources, all of which are available in the Youthscape store.

Our vision is to see the landscape change for every young person in the UK beginning with those in Luton. Ultimately we want to see all churches inspired and equipped with everything they need to see transformation in the lives of the young people in their community.

Mental & Emotional Wellbeing Work

Back in 1993, Youthscape started life as the Luton Churches Education Trust - a charity started and funded by the churches in Luton, working together to serve teenagers across the town. Since then we have grown into a national hub for youth work resources, events and training while continuing to serve the young people here at home.

As Youthscape grew, our team developed holistic, therapeutic packages for young people in schools, which led to us seeing many young people's lives being transformed. In 2009 we launched SelfharmUK as a response to the growing demand of a new generation, responding to a hugely significant challenge that we knew young people were unequipped to handle alone. Ten years on, we are still running this digital support service, whilst our local team are constantly developing pioneering, new responses on the ground. We continue to reflect on our support, pressing in to the needs that our young people face, making sure our programs continue to gain cultural capital.

We are looking for someone with the knowledge and expertise to join our dynamic team on the cusp of this critical, exciting time in our mental and emotional wellbeing work. Through leading and developing our mentoring programme and therapeutic work in schools, you will ensure a new generation of young people across Luton have access to the excellent emotional wellbeing support they deserve.

Over the coming year, we hope to develop significant partnerships with other local professional organisations, develop clinical commissions, and significantly develop this area of our programme. We are looking for someone who is ready for a new challenge, enjoys working as part of a team, and who will embody our Christian ethos.



Why work at Youthscape?

PASSION

Whether we're cleaning, mentoring, working in drop-in, creating new resources, planning events, looking after the finances, posting orders to customers, training youth workers, filing, delivering sessions in schools or fundraising, young people and their wellbeing



FAITH

The team meet every Monday morning to pray and focus on God at the start of the week, followed by breakfast together. We also go on a 48 hour retreat three times a year as a great chance to get away together for teaching, prayer, worship and to get to know each other.

PACKAGE

Our team work in a state of the art office in Luton town centre with free car parking. They enjoy 25 days of holiday per year, plus bank holidays. We also operate an employer's contributory pension scheme for all staff and a sixteen week sick pay policy.



OPPORTUNITIES

Staff have opportunities to get involved with wider ministry, including the National Youth Ministry Weekend, representing us at festivals and exhibitions, and the innovation process for new resources. Team are also encouraged to volunteer at drop-in or as a mentor.

Role description: Mental & Emotional Wellbeing Specialist

Key responsibilities and tasks

1. Responsibility for Youthscape's mental and emotional wellbeing work with young people in Luton principally through group programmes in schools, but also through other activities, including work at Bute Mills.

- Leading group programmes in person and helping to inspire and support others in the team in this work.
- Reviewing and developing the course structure and content of the existing group programmes.
- Developing new programmes to meet the mental and emotional needs of young people.

2. Developing Youthscape strategy to secure contracts for the delivery of mental and emotional wellbeing work on behalf of local health services.

- Building Youthscape's profile and reputation through representation in local working groups and through developing relationships with stakeholders.
- Working with the Luton Director to build partnerships with other voluntary organisations to bid for contracts, and managing any commissions and work resulting.

3. Responsibility for Youthscape's mentoring programme for young people in Luton.

- Advising the Referrals Manager in the allocation of volunteers to mentees.
- Training and supervising volunteers to participate in the programme.
- Ensuring mentors have any resources needed to carry out their role.
- Overseeing the collection of data and record-keeping for the programme.

4. Ensuring the work reflects current good practice, thinking and research.

5. Participating, as required, in the national dissemination of programmes, resources and training in relation to emotional wellbeing in young people.

6. Implementing Youthscape's safeguarding policies and practice in our mental and emotional wellbeing work.

7. To participate in the other work with young people in Luton, including work at Bute Mills, residential activities and events.

8. Fulfilling your wider responsibilities as a member of Youthscape, including meetings, training and development, staff activities, our weekly chapel services and our termly 48-hour retreat. To carry out any other reasonable tasks as required by your line manager.

Essential knowledge, skills & experience

- **At least two year's experience in mental and emotional wellbeing work with young people.**
E.g. Work within the NHS, Children's Services, education or the charitable sector.
- **A relevant degree or other formal qualification and evidence of a commitment to training and development.**
E.g. Youth work degree, Psychology degree, Teaching qualification, counselling qualification.
- **Excellent people skills in relating to other professionals.**
- **Knowledge and experience of working directly with young people one-to-one and in groups.**
- **Understanding and experience with young people of safeguarding principles and practice.**
- **Confidence and creativity to adapt and develop material for activities and groups.**
- **Experience of supporting young people who self-harm.**

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- Honesty and integrity.
- Organised and methodical.
- Attention to detail.
- Personal effectiveness and self-management.
- Motivation and commitment.
- Good interpersonal skills .
- Strong written communication skills.

VALUES AND ETHOS

- There is an occupational requirement that the role be held by a Christian.

Salary

Salary: From £25,000 depending on level of experience and qualifications

Conditions of Employment

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| Location: | Bute Mills, Luton |
| Hours: | 40 hours per week |
| Holiday: | 25 working days + bank holidays |
| Probation: | 6 months |
| Termination: | 1 month by either party |

We are happy to consider candidates looking for part time and flexible working hours.



Completed application form to be sent to jemimah.woodbridge@youthscape.co.uk

Appointments will be subject to candidates providing references, a satisfactory DBS and proof of eligibility to work in the UK.

Deadline for applications is 31st October 2019. Interviews scheduled for November.