A photograph of the Strathmore Road Methodist Church, a stone building with a steep gable roof, arched windows, and two large wooden doors with ornate metal hardware. The text "Strathmore Road Methodist Church Job Pack" is overlaid in white. The church is constructed from light-colored stone blocks. The gable end features a large, ornate rose window. Below the gable, there are several tall, narrow arched windows. The entrance consists of two large wooden doors, each with multiple ornate metal knockers and handles. The sky is blue with some clouds, and bare tree branches are visible in the upper right corner.

Strathmore Road Methodist Church Job Pack





Strathmore Road Methodist Church

is seeking an experienced professional to work alongside our part-time youth worker to develop and inspire our children's, youth and families' work.

Located in Gateshead in the North East, SRMC is one Church over two sites, serving the communities of Rowlands Gill, Highfield, High Spenn and Chopwell.

With the help of the Holy Spirit, we seek to live our lives as a loving community worshipping God, following the example and teaching of Jesus Christ.

The Project

The Children and Youth Matters Project at SRMC has faithfully served our children, young people and communities over the last 20 years. The project has presented itself in many shapes and sizes since the year 2000, with each iteration responding to the needs and people of the time. 2020 has been a year like no other, with the coronavirus pandemic having disastrous effects across the world. The Church must support its communities with healing in any way it can. Children and young people have been greatly affected and it is our responsibility to respond lovingly to the needs of those in our area.

In 2020, we completed a new refurbishment project on our building in Rowlands Gill and, along with our building at Chopwell, we are afforded exciting opportunities to work with children, youth and families across our catchment. We employ a part-time youth worker, who leads our provision over Rowlands Gill and Highfield, and a key part of your role will be to work collaboratively with them to develop provision further.

The communities of Rowlands Gill, Highfield, High Spen and Chopwell fall within the 20-30% most deprived in the country, with Chopwell in the most deprived 10% for income deprivation affecting children. Our local area has seen a huge reduction in local authority children's, youth and families work, leading to the point where there is now no council youth provision for Rowlands Gill, Highfield and High Spen. As a local church, we recognise the huge needs of our community and it is clear that these needs have become ever greater due to the pandemic. We know from scripture that children are a blessing and a gift from God (Matthew 19:13-14; Psalm 127:3-5). Jesus teaches us in Luke 9:46-47 "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest." We hold these words at the heart of our project.

Our hope is that our Church can be a beacon for the community, providing loving, relevant and exciting provision for children, youth and families. If you are excited about sharing God's love with others and feel you have the vision and drive to do so, we would love to hear from you.

Life in Rowlands Gill and the surrounding area

Rowlands Gill is a picturesque village surrounded by good walks, cafés and restaurants. We are situated just a 20-minute drive from Newcastle city centre, the beating heart of the North East. You can be at one of Northumberland's beautiful beaches or the hills of the North Pennines within just 30 minutes. Our Church is ideally located to accommodate all styles of life. Financial support with relocating is available to the successful candidate, as well as insight and local knowledge to help find the right place for you.





Job Description

Purpose

To enable children, youth and families to know that they are valued, to help share the good news of God's love for them, revealed in Jesus Christ, and to enable them to grow and develop in the Christian faith. In doing so, the post holder will work in partnership with the leadership team, the part-time Youth Worker and the Church community, to develop and oversee provision in the Church, local schools and in the wider community.

Main Responsibilities

Community outreach:

- Reach out and get to know people in their communities, through existing groups, schools and established community links.
- Lead detached work to build groups and support networks around community needs, with a focus on those at the economic margins.
- Develop inclusive groups, with young people's needs and interests in mind, for all ages and genders across Rowlands Gill, Highfield, High Spennings and Chopwell.
- Focus on supporting children, youth and families' mental and spiritual health, particularly with reference to the effects of the pandemic.
- Offer training and support to parents.
- Be a link to other services who can offer support to families, should they need it.

Schools:

- To develop an on-going strategy for the development of a schools' programme.
- To lead assemblies, classroom sessions and extra-curricular activities in local primary schools.
- To build effective working relationships with head teachers and staff.
- To begin to develop provision in local secondary schools, working with other practitioners to do so.

Provision at Strathmore Road Methodist Church (SRMC):

- To coordinate the large team of volunteers across the varied children's provision at SRMC and support them in their work by:
 - Modelling good practice
 - Encouraging ongoing training
 - Working with the management group to identify and recruit volunteers.
- To work with existing families to develop appropriate models of discipleship, particularly post Covid.
- To assist with pastoral support of existing families.
- To work collaboratively with the part time youth worker in delivering the children's, youth and families work.
- To regularly review and adapt the children, youth and families' provision across SRMC, in collaboration with the youth worker and the Children & Youth Matters Management team, and respond to identified needs.
- To promote and work within the Church's safeguarding policy.
- Input into Church leadership meetings.

Personal Development

Developing your faith:

- Become an active part of worshipping life at Strathmore Road Methodist Church.
- Prioritise your relationship with God and use work time to meet with a spiritual mentor and/or attend retreat days, in conversation with your line manager.
- Listen to and seek the Holy Spirit to guide you in all aspects of your personal and professional life.

Developing yourself as a professional:

- Engage with local, regional and national children, youth and family networks.
- Work collaboratively with your line manager, the part-time youth worker and the management group to develop yourself as a professional.
- Engage in and seek out continuous professional development and training.

Terms and conditions

The salary will be paid on the JNC Youth Professional pay scale range 13-17 (£27,100 - £30,819), depending on experience and qualifications.

Normal working hours: 37.5 hours a week.

4-year contract, subject to funding.

Opportunities for study and for training.

Contribution to a personal pension.

All reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

At least one day free of responsibilities each week.

33 days annual leave including statutory public holidays.

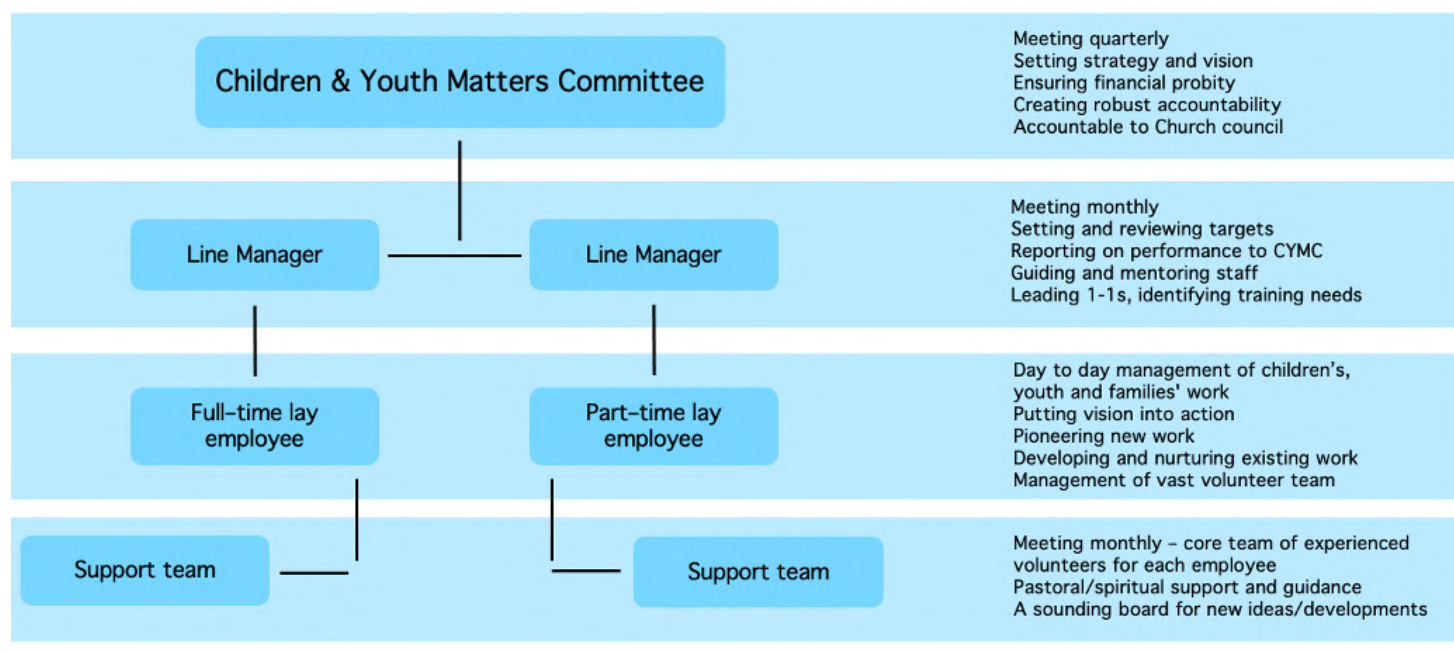
Appointment will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced safeguarding disclosure.

Appointment will be subject to the satisfactory completion of a three-month probationary period.

Management

The Children, Youth and Families' Worker will be responsible to The Children and Youth Matters Committee, which in turn reports to Church Council.

Children & Youth Matters Management Structure



Person Specification

Children, Youth and Families' Worker	Essential	Desirable	Method of Assessment
Key: Qualifications (Q), Application (A), Interview (I)			
Education & Training			
Holds a degree in a relevant discipline or equivalent experience evidenced for the role	X		Q
Up to date safeguarding training	X		Q
Proof of further study/continuous professional development		X	Q
A recognised Biblical, theological or missional qualification		X	Q
Driver's license		X	Q
First Aid Qualification		X	Q
Experience			
Current and active member of Christian Church or Community	x		A
Experience of working and building relationships with children, youth and families	X		A/I
Experience with setting up new children's, youth or families work	X		A/I
Experience of community work and service outside of the church building	X		A/I
Experience of undertaking, organising and leading family events		X	A/I
Experience of working in schools in a paid or voluntary capacity		X	A/I
Experience of managing a budget		X	A
Experience of leading and developing a wide team of volunteers		X	A/I
Experience of maintaining working relationships/partnerships with a wide range of people and organisations		X	A
Experience working with children, youth and families from a wide range of dispositions and backgrounds, including those with additional needs		X	A/I
Involvement in networking with other colleagues in the field, keeping abreast of research and best practice		X	A
Knowledge & Skills			
Able to communicate the Christian story in exciting, engaging and relevant ways for children, youth and families	X		I
Excellent written and verbal communication skills	X		A/I
Knowledge of the needs and issues affecting families today	X		A/I
IT and social media literate	X		A
Knowledge of Safeguarding and child protection procedures	X		A
Able to motivate self and others	X		A
Able to recognise and develop gifts of others	X		A
Able to assess needs and setting priorities		X	A/I
Ability to adapt to change and adjust priorities accordingly		X	A/I
Other			
Attentive to the Holy Spirit and committed to growing in faith	X		A/I
Able to present a strong Christian example	X		A/I
A pastoral heart	X		A
Have a personal Christian faith	X		A/I
A flexible approach and ability to work evenings and weekends as appropriate	X		A
Satisfactory disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service	X		

Are you interested?

Please contact Revd. Ann Varker at minister@rowlandsgill.org.uk to arrange an informal chat and to request an application form.

Applications close noon 25th June 2021.

Candidates will be contacted to know whether they have been shortlisted.

Interviews will be held on Saturday 10th July 2021.

We look forward to hearing from you!



