



**Euxton Parish Church**

# **Children & Youth Minister Job Pack**





## Euxton Parish Church

Euxton Parish Church is a growing church in the evangelical tradition in a village setting on the edge of Chorley.

### The Parish

Euxton (pronounced Ex-ton) is a large village (approx. 14,000) on the west side of Chorley. The village is predominantly residential with a few shops either end of the village, 2 stations, 4 schools (and good links with St Michael's CE High School too) and more houses being built! The parish is divided by the M6 (the west side is farming land and the east housing).



### Ministry at our Church

Euxton Parish Church (one church) sits at the centre of the village, most of whom regard it as 'their church'. In the past 3 years, we have begun a regular All Age Service which complements our other services across the week. We also run a mid-week Early Bird service for 0-4s and their carers.

These services form part of regular service pattern so that we offer a menu of services:

*Sunday...*

8am BCP, 9.15am All Age, 11am Holy Communion / Morning Prayer

*Wednesday...*

9.15am Early Birds & 11am Holy Communion.

### Children & Families

We have seen a significant growth in our church family, especially in our ministry amongst families over the past 3 years. In Autumn 2021 we started a youth group for those school years 6-11, which has grown year on year. There are also very strong links with Euxton CE Primary School, and links with the other community schools in Euxton. In recent years we have been part of CPAS Ventures with other local schools.



### Priorities

Our priorities as a church for the coming few years are...

- **Making disciples** - enabling everyone to grow in their faith and relationship with Jesus, including those who do not yet know that they need Jesus

- **Growing leaders** - encouraging the use of the gifts and skills within our church family, to be used to glorify God, particularly in the area of leadership if we are to continue to grow.

- **Outreach** - sharing God's love in a variety of ways to those in our community.

- **Resources** - ensuring that we use our resources (in the widest sense) well to help our mission and ministry.





## **The Team**

Revd Jo Smith has been Vicar since December 2019. She has a passion for helping people to grow in their faith, realising their full potential and evangelism, with a real heart for children & young people, having been a Youth Minister prior to ordination. Jo loves exploring new parts of the world, as well as being Chaplain to Ironman Triathlons (with no desire to ever do one!).



Other team members include:

Mo & Martin - our Church Wardens.

Gail - our church Administrator (20 hours / week)

Sue - Church Community Centre Co-ordinator

Paul - ordinand

Anne - Authorised Lay Minister (Youth)

We have a Youth team who enjoy leading and running sessions, with others in our church supporting youth ministry through prayer and cake! Our Early Bird service is also run by a great team which has recently grown to bring more people in to lead, run crafts and serve refreshments.

We have a growing number of church family who serve across a whole variety of ministries in the church from AV, to Cleaning, Pastoral to Social Media, Grounds to Finance and about any other you can think of! There is a committed and active PCC who are very supportive.

## **Children & Youth Minister**

Our ministry amongst young people has grown significantly over the past number of years and we are keen to continue to develop this ministry, hence the establishment of this role. The post holder will be part of the ministry team and will have the incredible opportunity to invest and develop our ministry to young people and their families...what an investment. There is so much untapped potential here and a team and church willing to work with and alongside you.



## **Want to find out more?**

Have a look at our website [www.euxtonparishchurch.org](http://www.euxtonparishchurch.org) or our social media.

Contact Revd Jo Smith - [vicar@euxtonparishchurch.org](mailto:vicar@euxtonparishchurch.org) or 07926 279494 for an informal conversation.

# ignite PROJECT

**The Ignite Project is making Jesus known and equipping the local church to fulfil the Diocese of Blackburn's ambitious vision to more than double the numbers of children and young people engaged in active discipleship to Jesus.**



With an awareness that employing a youth or children's worker is the biggest common factor to growth of youth and children's ministry, 30 youth and children's leaders will be strategically placed in parishes from July 2025 to **enable** more engagement with local young people, facilitate vibrant, faith-filled communities and programmes that **nurture** young people's spiritual growth,

and **disciple** those young people into deeper faith and integration into the wider church family. That parish that employs each Ignite Leader will share the vision and work together with the Ignite Project Leaders to reach growing numbers of children and young people with supportive and Spirit-filled ministry.



Ignite Leaders will receive training, mentoring, and access to formal ministry qualifications, building a network of passionate and dedicated youth and children's leaders across the Diocese. The Ignite Project seeks to catalyse growth and create lasting change, equipping churches to nurture faith and disciple future generations.





## Euxton Parish Church



<b>Role</b>	Children & Youth Minister (Ignite Lead)
<b>Accountable to</b>	Euxton Parish Church PCC
<b>Reporting to</b>	The Vicar
<b>Salary</b>	£26,000 - £30,000 according to qualifications and experience. A house is not provided with the post.
<b>Holiday entitlement</b>	25 days per annum plus statutory days to begin with.
<b>Training entitlement</b>	Training is available with Emmanuel Theological College as part of the Ignite Project.
<b>Hours</b>	35 hours a week. Flexibility to fulfil the role, including some evening and weekend work, is required.
<b>Normal Place of Work</b>	Home, Church & Church Community Centre.

### About Euxton Parish Church

Euxton (pronounced Ex-ton) Parish Church is a growing church in the evangelical tradition, on the edge of Chorley. In recent years, following the introduction of a weekly All Age Service we have seen significant growth in our ministry amongst families. We have very strong links with our local church primary school.

Our Youth Group was established in November 2021 and has continued to steadily grow, engaging young people from year 6 upwards. Early Birds is our Pre-school service which meets weekly in term time in church. We long to grow our children and youth ministry in both depth, number and outreach.

Our church vision is “to be a healthy church which transforms our community”. Our focus is on discipleship (growing in our faith and service), outreach (reaching those who do not yet know Jesus) and resources (using wisely what God has blessed us with).

## We are looking for someone who

- is committed to growing in their own relationship with Jesus.
- enables and inspires children and young people to grow a deep rooted personal faith in God.
- is an innovative, creative and visionary team player.
- has a heart for mission to the last, the least and the lost.
- is a good communicator, confidently able to engagingly share the gospel with a variety of ages and in a variety of settings.
- has experience of growing, leading and mentoring volunteer teams.
- is warm, relational and will intentionally integrate themselves into community and church life.
- has an understanding of the challenges that children or young people in 2025 face and how to support them.
- has a knowledge and understanding of a parish context.

## We, as a Church, offer you

### **Regular continued professional development and mentoring:**

- Opportunities for you to grow and stretch in your ministry, safe in the knowledge that the church leadership has your back.
- Retreat times that are different from annual leave

### **Line Management & Pastoral Support**

- Valuing work-life blend which will seek to help you bring your best whilst having time to rest, have fun and time of your own.
- Helping you to identify where your role begins and ends.
- Understanding and compassionate leadership that wants the best for you, your family & friends and your ministry.

A warm welcome, and opportunities for you to get to know us, and us you, and we know that it takes time to settle into a new church and ministry.

## Objectives & Responsibilities

*Lead and co-ordinate our Children & Youth Ministry, with a specific focus on school years 3-13 (KS2-5).*

### **The three key objectives of the role are:**

- **Deepen and nurture** the faith & discipleship of young people (school years 3-13) (Discipleship)
- **Develop and grow** existing and new community links (especially schools) (Outreach)
- **Support, recruit and encourage** the development of our young people's leaders. (Resources)

### **Responsibilities**

#### **Deepen and nurture** the faith & discipleship of young people (school years 3-13)

- To pray for and with the children, young people and their families in our local community and church family.
- Create a discipleship pathway for our young people through to adulthood; which encourages and inspires them to a life following Jesus.
- Lead & co-ordinate our youth group (year 6 upwards), helping them to grow in their faith and reach out to their friends.
- Be part of the All Age Team - helping to lead and teach at the 9.15am service.
- Enable opportunities beyond the parish for our young people (eg Abide, weekends away and residential).
- Enable social opportunities for young people to invite their friends to, as well as to offer exploring faith activities.
- To identify and establish opportunities to provide pastoral support, and provide tools for faith to be nurtured in households.

- To develop relationships with other Chorley churches to see a regular gathered youth event taking place for secondary age young people.

**Develop and grow** existing and new community links (especially schools)

- To enhance relationships with the local schools, offering clubs, groups and activities to serve those institutions and create greater links between the schools and Euxton Parish Church.
- Support our schools work (in some cases taking a lead) including being part of School Ventures. We have links with 3 local primary schools (one is a church primary school) and with St Michael's C of E High School in Chorley.
- To provide events & opportunities for those who don't yet come to church to experience and explore a faith community.
- To foster and support links with local schools and youth groups.

**Support, recruit and encourage** the development of our young people's leaders.

- To nurture, maintain and develop their own spiritual life, faith and relationship with Jesus.
- To grow and develop in their own gifting, leadership and vocation.
- To co-ordinate the recruitment, training, encouraging and supporting of voluntary leaders both practically and prayerfully. This will include building up the team through time spent together and identifying provision for any training needs.
- To keep up-to-date all necessary administration and records, and to meet all safeguarding, statutory and legal requirements.
- To attend PCC and any other appropriate church meetings when requested.

***NB: It is recognised that the person appointed will bring particular gifts and experiences that may not be identified in the above, and so there will be some flexibility in how the work is developed. The person will help shape the job themselves in conjunction with their line manager, making the best use of their gifts.***

Person Specification	
Education and Training	
<b>Essential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five GCSE qualifications at Grade C or above (or equivalent) preferably including English Language.</li> </ul>
<b>Desirable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A nationally recognised qualification in children/youth work/ general ministry/ theology at degree or equivalent level or willingness to work towards.</li> <li>Excellent knowledge of Safeguarding.</li> </ul>

Experience	
<b>Essential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An active member of a Christian church with a personal living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.</li> </ul> <p><i>*Given the nature and context of the work, it is an occupational requirement that the post holder should be a communicant member of the Church of England or a full member of a church within Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, in order to fulfil the main purpose of the post. This post is therefore exempt under Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First-hand experience of leading or co-ordinating activities for children/youth.</li> <li>Experience of working within a team.</li> <li>Experience of leading and nurturing teams.</li> </ul>
<b>Desirable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experience of leading and nurturing teams of volunteers.</li> <li>Experience of working in a local church context.</li> <li>Experience of working as part of a staff team.</li> </ul>

Knowledge and Skills	
<b>Essential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A clear understanding of children/youth and principles of children/youth work, including reaching them with the gospel and discipling them.</li> <li>Working knowledge and commitment to safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of children/youth.</li> <li>Skills in working directly with children &amp; young people.</li> <li>Excellent communication &amp; people skills, appropriate for connecting with children/families/young people, interacting with the church family and reaching the community.</li> <li>A confidence and boldness in getting alongside and introducing children and young people to Jesus.</li> <li>IT literacy, including use of social media and office packages.</li> </ul>
<b>Desirable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An understanding of the pressures young people face, including around mental health.</li> <li>Training and /or experience in supporting young people's mental health and helping to promote good personal well-being.</li> <li>The confidence to take the initiative to ask for help and advice when needed.</li> </ul>



<b>Qualities</b>	
<b>Essential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to evidence an active devotional life, a consistent Christian character and a commitment to live and minister under the authority of the Bible.</li> <li>• Able to present a strong, loving Christian role model.</li> <li>• Able to share the Christian faith in a way children and young people can relate to.</li> <li>• Able to show genuine desire and enthusiasm for leading young people and children into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.</li> <li>• Able to relate effectively with a wide spectrum of people (i.e. adults, young people and children from a variety of backgrounds).</li> <li>• Able to communicate effectively in person and in writing.</li> <li>• Able to motivate self and to use time wisely.</li> <li>• Able to manage administration effectively and recognise the importance of doing so.</li> <li>• Able to set and work to goals without direct supervision.</li> </ul>
<b>Desirable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of initiating and developing quality projects, groups and activities and adapt to changing priorities and circumstances.</li> <li>• Able to help others manage their time wisely.</li> </ul>
<b>Other – Essential</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Satisfactory Enhanced DBS disclosure.</li> <li>• Commitment to engage in professional and spiritual development.</li> </ul>
<b>Desirable</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to appropriate transport for travel within the area.</li> </ul>

#### **Technical matters**

- In accordance with Blackburn Diocesan requirements, Euxton Parish Church PCC has adopted the diocesan safeguarding and safer recruitment policies.
- The role will be subject to a six-month probationary period.
- The post is subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- Note, this Job Description does not form part of your Contract of Employment.

#### **Application details**

Closing date for applications: 12noon Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025

Interviews: Sunday 6th & Monday 7th July 2025

Applications should be sent to Revd Jo Smith - [vicar@euxtonparishchurch.org](mailto:vicar@euxtonparishchurch.org)

For further information on this role or for an informal conversation please contact Revd Jo Smith ([vicar@euxtonparishchurch.org](mailto:vicar@euxtonparishchurch.org) or 07926 279494).