

Developing a vision for Youth Ministry

**Planning the way forward
in uncertain times**



As we see changing restrictions and continued uncertainty, it can be difficult to know how to engage young people in your Parish. This resource seeks to provide a space for you to clarify what is important in the months ahead.

It is hoped that you can be confident about what you can do, what can be achieved by your team and how you will continue to connect with young people during this time.

What are our priorities for youth ministry in the next few months?

Take some time to reflect, pray and consider the young people in your Parish. Rank the elements below with what is important for you with the young people in your Parish. Just include the things which will be important values for your ministry, it's ok to leave things out or add something new.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Outreach to respond to local needs	<input type="checkbox"/>	Praying together	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asking questions about faith
<input type="checkbox"/>	Applying the Bible to the cultural context	<input type="checkbox"/>	Outreach to share faith	<input type="checkbox"/>	Faith is modelled to young people
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connecting young people with their peers	<input type="checkbox"/>	Facilitating worship	<input type="checkbox"/>	Facilitating fun experiences
<input type="checkbox"/>	Connecting young people to the wider church family	<input type="checkbox"/>	Informal chat	<input type="checkbox"/>	Run an active social media
<input type="checkbox"/>	Point young people to personal devotional material	<input type="checkbox"/>	Practising spiritual disciplines	<input type="checkbox"/>	Resource family ministry
<input type="checkbox"/>	Building relationships between young people & leaders	<input type="checkbox"/>	A creative space	<input type="checkbox"/>	Teaching young people about faith
<input type="checkbox"/>	Involve & train young people in leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	Making space for pastoral conversations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Studying the Bible with young people
<input type="checkbox"/>	Young people experience feeling loved/safe/valued	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	

What can we do?

Use the steps model to plan how you will facilitate the elements above in your Parish. The steps model involves 3 levels, firstly what must happen, secondly what would be a bonus and finally what do you hope could happen. The 'must happen' should link with your highest rated elements and can be really simple! Think whether it is achievable to deliver even if something changes for your team or within the regulations. A bonus could be the frequency you do the 'must happen' activity, or planning a gathering separate to a Sunday service. A hope could reflect an element which you ranked fifth or sixth but would be a joy to facilitate if possible.

Thinking about the elements you chose, what would be the ideal way for these elements to be practised? This may be what you did pre-Covid or something you haven't tried before. How have you fulfilled this element effectively in the past? Does this need to be adapted to happen now?

In deciding for each step, why not think through these concepts: frequency of engagement, in what format will you connect, group size, connection with other church arrangements, capacity of volunteers, young people's engagement.

Hope	
Bonus	
Must Happen	

Summing Up

Take some time to reflect on what you've thought about. Develop a plan to present to your Rector and Select Vestry. Be aware that there may be fear about some ideas, yet it is still worth presenting these. You might want to share some good practice or examples from other Parishes who are running a similar model of youth ministry at this time. Be prepared both in what you hope to achieve and how you have considered how you will meet requirements and keep young people safe.



If you have any questions about this resource, please contact
Christina Baillie, Diocesan Youth Officer

Email: christinabaillie@connordiocese.org
Mobile: 07753312405