

BRADFORD MISSION APPRENTICES

Growing Missional Leaders
2025-27



GROWTH FOR YOU AND LOCAL CHURCHES

This role will give you the amazing opportunity to explore more of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus and grow as a leader of mission in a local church.

For two years, we will build up skills that will equip you for life, work, mission and leadership, and give you the opportunity to use and develop them in a local church setting.

It's a two-year long adventure giving you the experience of leadership and service, learning alongside a community of other Mission Apprentices.

YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

Key to this being two successful and enriching years for you will be the development of your relationship with God.

You will have time to be with God, be encouraged to find new and different ways of engaging with Him both on your own and as you share this journey with others in your church, parish and learning community. This will also involve you gaining leadership experience and developing transferable work skills in your church context.

Your training will include biblical studies, theology and leadership, and there will be plenty of opportunities to step out from your comfort zone, be stretched and challenged and discern God's calling for you for the future.



YOUR KINGDOM POTENTIAL

Through your time with us you will develop new learning habits and disciplines that will help you as you follow Jesus. You will have the opportunity to learn a variety of skills as our Resource and Resourcing churches grow, share generously and send graciously. Who knows but by the end of the two years maybe you will feel called to go with a new church planting team, or move into the business community or into further education. Everything is possible with God.

A MISSION APPRENTICE WEEK

A typical week may look like this:

- Two to three days serving in your placement (including Sunday);
- Monday mornings with the Mission Apprentice learning community;
- Time for study, reflection and line management;
- Two to three days available for other work, study or recreation;
- A day of rest.

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The Mission Apprentice role is great because it gives you the opportunity to experience lots of different aspects and roles involved in working for the church.

You get to meet and work with some amazing people and grow as a person and closer to God whilst doing so.

Lucinda, Mission Apprentice



FINANCE

The role runs from September 2025 to August 2027 with a salary of £13,100 per annum, plus a pension contribution of 8%, for 20 hours of work a week. We will cover the cost of your involvement in the Learning Community, including residentials. Expenses will be paid as agreed in advance. There will be 25 days annual leave per annum (pro rata) in addition to Bank Holidays. These will need to be agreed with your line manager.

PLACEMENTS

Your main focus will be working for one of the 17 churches participating in the Mission Apprentice scheme, which will provide opportunities to get involved in many different activities. We want you to be able to take responsibility for growing an area of church life, ministry or mission over the two years and will work with you, your particular gifts and sense of calling to identify the best place and way for you to serve.

SUPPORT

You will be supported by your line manager and the leadership team of the parish in which you are serving. We will encourage and support you in finding a mentor to provide additional support. As part of the Learning Community, you will also be supported by the Learning hub leader and Intern Lead.



EXPECTATIONS



Mission Apprentices are expected to commit to each aspect of the programme:

- giving of their best as they serve in their placement church
- supporting and encouraging their fellow Mission Apprentices
- engaging with the weekly learning community
- adhering to the Code of Conduct.

LEARNING COMMUNITY

Each week, in term time, you will gather for a morning of learning, training, worship and prayer with the rest of the Mission Apprentices. The sessions will be led by expert practitioners and leaders. The majority of teaching will be at the Bradford Learning hub, but occasionally you will also get to gather with interns from across the Diocese.

The **weekly Learning Hub sessions** give you opportunity to reflect, discuss and to have input from a wide variety of speakers on varying aspects of mission, discipleship, church growth and leadership. Examples of topics covered include:

Discipleship and the Kingdom of God Spiritual Disciplines
Encountering God in the Old and New Testaments Preaching
Leadership Apologetics Pastoral Care Challenging questions

There will also be **overnight residentials** over the two years as an opportunity to experience God's presence, deepen your roots of faith further and strengthen your understanding of the Bible (the residentials will be free and you will be expected to attend them).

Much of your **learning and development** also happens on the ground as you serve in different ministries, trying out new things, taking on responsibilities and seeing God at work in you and through you.



OVERVIEW OF THE CHURCHES

The 17 **placement churches** are Resource or Resourcing Churches, or churches linked with them:

- Fountains Church Bradford, our City Centre **Resource Church**, linked with the parishes of Frizinghall, Shelf with Buttershaw and and Fairweather Green.
- **Resourcing Parishes:**
 - St John's Clayton linked with the parish of Allerton
 - North-East Bradford: Holy Trinity Idle, linked with the parishes of Wrose, Greengates, Thorpe Edge and Eccleshill
 - St John's Great Horton and St Wilfrid's Lidget Green
 - Girlington, Heaton & Manningham (4 churches)

Each Resource / Resourcing church has its own unique qualities but all have a shared goal of generous sharing of their resources with other churches (e.g. through training, events, support, mission teams) and gracious sending of people to revitalise nearby churches, or plant into unreached areas of their own parish as well as to produce vocations as part of their leadership pipelines.



REMAINING PLACEMENT CONTEXTS

Fountains Church Bradford, with Frizinghall, Shelf with Buttershaw and Fairweather Green – 3 Mission Apprentice vacancies

Fountains is a vibrant, growing church in the heart of Bradford, meeting in a former nightclub that's been completely refurbished into a modern, Spirit-filled space. We're approaching our sixth birthday and already host a number of creative and diverse congregations:

- Sunday Church – a growing, intergenerational service with thriving children's and youth work
- Saturday Gathering – a community especially for those on the margins of society
- Wrestling Church – for those in and around the wrestling scene
- International Church – primarily serving international students in the city.

We're looking for a Mission Apprentice to focus on children and families' ministry. This includes:

- Supporting our Children's Church (ages 18 months to 16 years)
- Helping lead our toddler group Stay and Play
- Growing our Saturday outreach, Stepping Stones, which connects with families who've outgrown toddler activities
- Investing in parents and carers as primary disciplers of their children
- Helping organise invitational and family-friendly events for outreach.

If you have relevant experience, this post can be extended up to 30 hours per week (with additional paid hours).



Our second key area is **social media and marketing**.

We'd love a Mission Apprentice to work alongside our Creative Director to:

- Develop our presence on social media
- Help shape our marketing strategy
- Support our city-wide reach as a new and exciting venue.

Fountains is a passionate, creative team where we're all growing as disciples of Jesus. But if you sense God calling you to Fountains with other gifts, we still want to hear from you. For example, we're currently exploring how to support St Saviour's Fairweather Green, a nearby urban parish with a small but faithful congregation and lots of opportunity for mission.

We'd love someone:

- With a heart for community outreach
- Who's keen to build relationships beyond church walls
- Who can help shape what a new worshipping community might look like.

You'd be based at St Saviour's but supported by the Fountains team.



Mission Apprentice Opportunities Across Our Network:

- **St Margaret's Frizinghall** is situated in a vibrant Muslim-majority neighbourhood and is known for its strengths in community engagement and youth ministry. We're particularly looking for someone to:
 - Help lead our growing youth ministry
 - Support our Sunday evening youth group, Bible studies, and monthly gatherings
 - Engage with the city-wide U:nite youth movement
 - Bring a love for hot chocolate and a heart for discipling young people!

If you're drawn to Frizinghall but your gifts lie elsewhere, we'd still love to talk.

- **St Michael's Shelf with St Aidan's Buttershaw**. This mainstream Anglican church recently planted a new congregation at Buttershaw Youth Centre. We've seen signs of growth and hunger for faith, especially among newer believers. We're looking for Mission Apprentices who can:
 - Grow visibility through flyers, social media, and community presence
 - Make worship accessible to people new to church
 - Reach out to young people and children in the local area
 - Support community initiatives like the Place of Welcome and The Bereavement Journey.



- **St Saviour's Fairweather Green**. This inner-urban parish has a small, faithful congregation and a newly refurbished modern building.

With strong connections through a lively Cubs and Scouts group and other weekly touchpoints, we're praying for someone to:

- Build community relationships
- Spot signs of the Kingdom in everyday life
- Help pioneer new expressions of worship and faith in the area.

Is God Calling You?

We'd love to hear from you if you're excited by any of the following:

- Leading children's or youth ministry
- Supporting worship and creative outreach through social media and design
- Working with those on the margins
- Developing community-facing mission
- Or using your unique gifts in new ways across our network.

Come and explore what God might do in and through you. Apply now to be part of the Mission Apprentice journey.



Holy Trinity Idle - 3 Mission Apprentice vacancies

The opportunities in North East Bradford are across the five parishes of Idle, Greengates, Wrose, Thorpe Edge and Eccleshill. In recent years, the five churches have increasingly worked collaboratively with a shared desire to see the love of Jesus spread across our communities. Since the creation of the Resourcing Church Network, Mission Apprentices have played a key role in supporting and enabling mission and outreach across the area. There is now an opportunity to expand this positive influence even more widely.

The three Mission Apprentices who join our team will gain a broad and thorough understanding of the joys and challenges of parish ministry. They will also have ample opportunity to bring their own gifts, skills and passions to the role.

We have a wide range of opportunities for Mission Apprentices to focus on different areas of ministry and church life. We have two particular opportunities emerging for candidates who are interested in creating new worshipping communities, or working to build links between church and local families.

- We are excited by the appointment of a new minister who (as well as being responsible for Thorpe Edge) will have the specific challenge to create new worshipping communities for people we aren't currently reaching. These new communities could emerge within the existing church buildings, or in new spaces on local estates. A Mission Apprentice would work closely with the minister to explore these new possibilities.
- St Cuthberts, Wrose is a congregation who treasure their faith. The people of St Cuthberts feel keenly how much the challenges of church decline have impacted them and they are open and keen to consider fresh vision and strategies for change. The Mission Apprentice would work closely with the clergy to develop, and build upon, the good work and seeds sown over many years in seeking to build relationships with local families. These opportunities include strong school ties, Messy Church and community outreach. A key task for the Mission Apprentice would be to help develop these links and to build stronger bridges with the worshipping life of the church.

St John's Clayton - 1 Mission Apprentice vacancy

Clayton is an urban village on the outskirts of Bradford, served by its parish church, St John's.

We are seeking one Mission Apprentice to work in Clayton where we want to develop a new worshipping community.

Clayton is in a season of building up to reach out. We have a strong place in a tight-knit village community, with a capable, committed church family. The next step is to inspire and train up the church family (including you!) to grow in their God-given giftings so they can serve and share the Gospel in the wider community.

The Mission Apprentice would have a leading role in that, working with unchurched young families or wherever you feel called, with the ultimate plan of planting a new church community within the parish within the next two years.



WHAT NEXT?

For an informal chat,

please contact **Ven Dr Andy Jolley**, Archdeacon of Bradford on 07973 458403 or Andy.Jolley@leeds.anglican.org

To apply,

please fill in the application form which can be found on our [website](#) and send to this to **carmel.dylak@leeds.anglican.org**



The Mission Apprentices scheme is a key way in which we are seeking to develop new leaders, and especially those from and for disadvantaged, challenging communities.

Building on lessons from our first two groups of Mission Apprentices, with increased funding from the national church, we're recruiting our largest group yet, and expect to see growth in each individual as well as in their placement churches.

Andy Jolley, Archdeacon of Bradford



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Leeds