

Ministry Trainee Scheme 2017-18

Thank you for showing an interest in the Ministry Trainee Scheme at Aigburth Community Church, hopefully the information below will explain what the scheme involves and why we run it, but if having read through the information here you still have questions do not hesitate to get in touch.

Aigburth Community Church was started in 2008 with a mission to reach the Aigburth area of south Liverpool with the gospel of the Lord Jesus. In God's goodness we've seen progress in that mission but there remains lots of work to do. Aigburth itself is about 4 miles outside of the city centre alongside the river Mersey. The church meets in a converted Parish Hall, owned by the Parish Church but on a long lease to us, the hall is home to the church office and is used by the church, and a number of other community groups, throughout the week. There are normally about 130 of us on a Sunday morning with a wide cross-section of ages and including a good number of young families and a smaller number of students from the Liverpool universities.



The church is led by a team of elders (including two full-time pastors) who are all appointed by the members of the church. Alongside those elders we have a small staff team who, led by the pastor, work together to care for people, engage in evangelism and discipleship as well as ensure the smooth running of the practical side of our church life.

As a church we are convinced that one of the central elements of a healthy church is an eagerness to train a new generation of church leaders, pastoral workers and thoughtful church members. It is that conviction which lies behind the Ministry Trainee Scheme as we work with individuals who give a year of their time to work alongside the church in order to be trained for ministry. This training focuses on three areas: biblical and theological training, ministry training and practical service, which means we're looking for people who are hungry to learn and eager to serve.



Job Description

Hours: 40 hours/week, including attendance at the North West Partnership Ministry Training Course.

Pay: As this is a voluntary training scheme there will be no remuneration in respect to your involvement with the ministry of Aigburth Community Church. The church will pay for the NW Training Course fees and for you to attend any Church Away Days and Word Alive. There is a small bursary available for those who struggle to raise their own support, so please speak to us if finances are a concern.

Accountable to: Senior members of church staff and the elders of Aigburth Community Church.

Brief description of the role: The Training Scheme is divided into three parts: Biblical and Theological Training; Ministry Training and Experience; Training and Involvement in Practical Service. This document sets out our expectations of the role in those areas.

- Biblical and theological training

Training will be provided on the North West Training Course in Liverpool that takes place on a Tuesday in term time. The training given assumes that preparation and additional study will have been done by you in advance. The church will pay the fees for you to attend this course.

- Ministry training and experience

Your main area of training will vary depending on your gifts and the opportunities in the church. However the role will certainly involve reading the Bible 1to1, helping lead the children's groups and gaining experience leading Bible studies. You will observe others doing this work, and be supervised as you do some of this for yourself. There will be regular meetings with those responsible for the work to give time for reflection and feedback on what you have been doing. Your supervisor will be responsible for this element of the Scheme and will have pastoral responsibility for you. There will be opportunities to observe and take part in other areas of church life, such as the Christianity Explored Course, visiting, home groups and leading Sunday services.

- Training and involvement in practical service

Your training in this part of the scheme will chiefly involve seeing how a church functions behind the scenes and learning what is required practically for ministry to function in a church. As such you will get training and experience in a variety of practical tasks (eg preparing rooms for meetings, running PA system, cleaning the hall, serving refreshments etc.) The training may change through the year depending on the needs of the ministry at ACC.

- Other tasks

From time to time you will be asked to do other tasks not listed above which contribute to the running and organisation of the church. This will always be done by negotiation.

Growth and Support: As well as contributing significantly to the life of the church a significant function of the year is to provide you with training and support to encourage you to grow both in understanding and practice of the Christian life.

- Team meetings

The scheme involves working alongside the Aigburth Community Church staff team and joining in with the weekly staff meetings throughout the week where we study through a book, pray for each other and plan key jobs for the coming week.

- Supervision

In addition to the team meeting you will meet weekly with your supervisor to discuss progress with your work and how you are coping, as well as studying the Bible and planning future work.

- Conferences

We will pay for a place on Word Alive and for your attendance on the Church Away Day. In addition to that there are staff away days two or three times a year.

To find out more or to apply please email rosie@aigburthcommunitychurch.org