

LAUNCHPAD



Youthscape

**PRACTICAL STEPS TO CREATING A
CONFIDENT VISION AND PLAN FOR
YOUTH WORK IN YOUR CHURCH**

**A PROJECT SUPPORTING CHURCHES TO BEGIN
NEW CONNECTIONS AND WORK WITH YOUNG
PEOPLE IN THEIR CHURCHES AND PARISHES**

Church engagement with young people is in decline, but it doesn't have to be. Launchpad is an informed, practical and hopeful project that shows church leaders how they can initiate youth work in their church.

Only a quarter of churches in the UK were working with young people prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. That figure is likely to have dropped even further as many of those churches have found it hard to take youth activities online during lockdown. There is uncertainty about if some groups and activities will restart.

For churches who didn't have any ongoing work with young people before the pandemic, the challenge of getting something going can seem more challenging than ever. Most can't afford a paid worker and find it difficult to recruit volunteers. They're also acutely aware that the kind of youth work needed may need to look very different to accommodate the changing culture. No wonder it's intimidating to think about starting something from scratch.

Launchpad is the Diocese of London's answer to this challenge. It's a programme designed to give you the insights, strategies and confidence you need to help your church take this step forward. More than fifty vicars have taken part over the last three years and, as a result, many churches are now finding ways to begin work with young people for the first time.

"I would definitely recommend Youthscape - the course material was excellent, and very well delivered. It helped generate a lot of ideas I could take back and explore, and changed the direction of some of our youth work in a way that is already bearing fruit."

Rev. Andy Critch

**Introduction &
presentation with
Bishop Joanne at
4pm on 3rd Nov
2021**

How does Launchpad work?

Launchpad is tailored to your church and context. It starts with a visit to meet you and learn about the church and local community. Everything that follows in the course takes account of your situation and the traditions and practice of the church.

The team's experience in youth work often mean they can spot opportunities and ways of getting something going that might have been missed. Five sessions, accompanied by lunch, help you explore what these opportunities might be, and learn about what kinds of youth activities are working in other churches.

The programme is primarily for you as a vicar but we are also offering opportunities alongside you for other members of the church to participate in some of the programme - volunteers, for example, or a key member of the PCC.

Session 1 - Wednesday 12th January 12-2pm

Session 2 - Wednesday 26th January 12-2pm

Session 3 - Wednesday 9th February 12-2pm

Session 4 - Wednesday 23rd January 12-2pm

Session 5 - Wednesday 2nd March 12-2pm

Each session includes a hot lunch and will be held at a central location in the Area.

Launchpad is led by Chris Curtis and a team from Youthscape, a national charity working to renew the church's work with young people.

"I would recommend Youthscape: they were really supportive and encouraging, and have a lot to draw on in terms of experience. It was also great to be in a small group of clergy mostly at the same stage of trying to start things up, as we could support each other too. I really enjoyed it."

Rev. Sue Makin



Chris Curtis is Chief Executive of Youthscape and has been helping churches engage with young people for the last 35 years.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

We're offering Launchpad to ten vicars in ther Stepney Area. The first stage to getting involved is to join Bishop Joanne for a presentation on the programme on Wednesday 3rd November at 4pm. You'll much more about Launchpad and can make a final decison about joining in the following weeks.

— DIOCESE OF —
LONDON

TO REGISTER EMAIL
KATIE.O'CONNOR@LONDON.ANGLICAN.ORG