

Our Youth and Children's Ministry Values

Here at TBC we value Youth and Children's ministry which is:

PARTNERED

- Working with parents and carers: supporting, encouraging and respecting the fact that God has given responsibility for their children to them.
- Working within the church family, encouraging the children and young people to recognise their own valuable place within that community.
- Working with other churches, schools and other organisations wherever that is beneficial.

HOLISTIC

- Encouraging the children and young people to develop as healthy people mentally, emotionally, physically and socially as well as spiritually.
- Encouraging the children and young people to identify, develop and use all their gifts both within and outside the church, including in leadership roles where appropriate.
- Challenging the children and young people to be responsible global citizens, aware of issues of justice, the environment and politics.
- Setting clear boundaries and responding consistently to unhelpful behaviour to foster an environment of mutual respect.

INSPIRING

- Modelling and teaching a life-defining relationship with Jesus and habits which will feed that relationship.
- Encouraging the children and young

people to demonstrate the love of Christ through compassionate social action and unashamed witness.

- Cultivating an environment of faith in which the children and young people expect God to speak, guide, empower and transform them.

RELEVANT

- Presenting Christian truth and life in ways relevant to the culture and world our children and young people inhabit.
- Teaching and modelling what it means to live out a committed Christian faith in today's world.

RELATIONAL

- Creating supportive communities of faith where children and young people can share, encourage and be real together.
- Creating an environment where every child and young person can come as they are and know that they will be accepted, valued, welcomed and protected.
- Promoting the highest standards of safeguarding throughout our ministry as laid out in the TBC Safeguarding policy.

SUPPORTIVE

- Valuing team. Working together effectively, serving the same vision and motivated by a love for God and the children and young people.
- Caring for all who serve within this ministry and providing them with guidance, training, resources, support and clear expectations.

CHILDREN'S-WORK at TBC

how the pieces fit together

No part of TBC is louder or livelier than our Children's Ministry! We believe that children have a special place in God's heart and so our children have a special place in the life of our church family.

This leaflet serves to explain what purpose each part of our children's ministry serves and how they all fit together to form a cohesive strategy.



The Big Picture

Church should be fun, safe, exciting, welcoming and a place where you grow increasingly hungry for more of God. Actually, it should be like that whatever age you are, but our desire is for every experience of or connection with church to be a positive one for every child that we come into contact with. Our Children's Ministry is what enables that to happen.

Inside this leaflet you will find an explanation of the different groups and activities within our Children's Work and how they fit together to contribute to that big picture. On the back page you can read our youth and children's work values which underpin every aspect of our youth and children's ministry.

Come and chat...



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Follow us



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Sunday mornings

Children normally come into the morning service for around the first 10 or 15 minutes. During this time we encourage them to sit with their adults because this is your opportunity to model how being in church works. As they watch you worship, pray and respond to God their own expression of faith will be developing! There are often opportunities for the children to

participate directly during this part of the service.

After around 15 minutes they go out to their groups: crèche for ages 0-4 and Xtreme for children in years R-5. In these groups they will continue to worship, pray, chat and learn about the Bible.



Holiday Clubs

Every year in the Easter holiday we run a few days of Holiday Club. This is an intensive time of teaching, worship, fun, crafts and games with a lot of craziness thrown in. It's the ideal time for your child to invite a friend or two who have never been to church before!

Why not chat and pray with your child well before Easter about who they might invite this year?

Rainbow Tots

Our long-running Rainbow Tots group is a supportive community for parents and carers with children aged 0-4. Alongside a varied range of activities for toddlers there is lots of space for chatting and getting to know other local families. A great place to join in if you have pre-schoolers.



Messy Church

Messy Church is a creative and active all age church service where we expect to encounter God together as families. There's always food, crafts and games and a Bible story to think about. Messy is an ideal place to invite a family who aren't quite sure about Sunday church. Who could you bring?



Kids' Club

Every Friday evening the church building is packed with primary school aged children for an hour of lively (and loud!) activities. BFG is one of our largest outreaches and a fantastic opportunity for us to get to know other families from the local area. Why not pop in to the parents' café while BFG is happening and spend some time chatting over coffee and cake?



For the children, in amongst all the fun and activity we are positively trying to encourage creativity, friendship, teamwork and good social skills. Of course, there is also some spiritual input in the form of our "Big Idea" slot and regular encouragement to give Messy Church, Xtreme or Holiday Club a try.



All Age Services

One of our strongest principles is that Christian children's-work should support and not undermine the role that God has given parents to nurture faith in their own children. So attempting to run children's-work in complete isolation from the rest of the church family and especially from the children's own families would be quite unhealthy.

Our all age services provide an environment in which all generations can encounter God together. More

importantly, they allow children and young people to experience meeting with God alongside their adults and learning to pray, worship and engage with God as a family together. We recognise that some kids prefer the familiarity of their age-group specific activities, so these services can be a challenge. But we believe in the importance of families worshipping God together and of children learning to be part of a mixed age congregation. The benefits make the challenge worthwhile!