

Overview

You will pioneer and develop Youth Work provision in Cambourne, a rapidly growing area west of Cambridge City, supporting young people (aged 10-21) to overcome challenge, live fulfilling lives and inspire change in the world around them. You will work as part of a team of youth workers and volunteers to deliver detached sessions, one-to-one work, young people-led group activities, open access youth clubs, school based early intervention and transfer support, alternative education work and residential experiences that enable young people to overcome disadvantage, and develop personal, social and spiritual well-being. This work will be delivered in partnership with Cambourne Youth Partnership (CYP) and will require the post-holder to manage and utilise resources from both organisations in order to develop a holistic package of support for young people in the area.

Cambourne information

Cambourne, located 9 miles west of Cambridge, is a relatively new settlement comprising of three villages; Great Cambourne, Lower Cambourne and Upper Cambourne. At approximately 10,000 residents it is the largest settlement in South Cambridgeshire and boasts a rapidly growing population due to continued house-building and a very high birth-rate. The settlement includes a growing range of shops, services and leisure facilities and a business park. A wide range of information about the Cambourne community can be accessed via the Parish Council website;

<http://www.cambourneparishcouncil.gov.uk/links>. Cambourne's secondary school Cambourne Village College opened in September 2013, as a new Academy within the CAM Academy Trust. There are also 4 local primary schools in Cambourne. Cambourne has a mixed housing stock, with 40% affordable housing, and, along with many new communities, has experienced a number of challenges including high levels of mental health problems, domestic abuse, anti-social behaviour, referrals to social care and pressure on all tiers of services. This combined with the fact that 35% of the population are aged between 0-19 make this an exciting opportunity with the chance to develop youth work that has a significant impact on the lives of young people.

The partnership between Cambourne Youth Partnership and Romsey Mill

Romsey Mill is a Christian Charity with a vision of a transformed society where all young people, children and families fully belong, positively contribute and thrive. Its mission is to create opportunities with young people, children and families in Cambridge and South Cambridgeshire to overcome disadvantage, promote inclusion and develop personal, social and spiritual wellbeing. Romsey Mill has been providing youth work in Cambourne since 2009 working with a range of partners including Cambourne Church, Cambridgeshire County Council, West Cambridgeshire Christian Youth Ministries (WCCYM) and CYP.

Cambourne Youth Partnership is an independent charity with a Board of Trustees, partly funded by the Cambourne Parish Council, whose aim is to support young people, (5-18), through positive activities, open-access groups (currently for four age-groups 5-7, 8-11, 11-14, 14-18), holiday clubs, family fun days, trips and residential. To this end CYP currently employs a part-time children's & family worker, a part-time youth worker and a part-time administrator who work in partnership with the Romsey Mill youth development worker.

The Partnership: Having worked together for some time, and recognising the distinct yet complementary nature of the two organisations (including Romsey Mill's significant experience and infrastructure support and CYP's standing within the local community and close relationship with the Parish Council) a formal partnership agreement was established between the two organisations in 2014. Since this time the organisations have jointly employed a youth development worker to coordinate youth work delivery in Cambourne and it is this role that is being advertised. The successful candidate will be employed and line managed by Romsey Mill but a significant part of the role will be to work collaboratively with CYP, their part-time employees and their trustees to establish a holistic package of support for young people in the area.

Facilities

CYP has a youth facility in Cambourne consisting of an office, two large spaces for activities, a small meeting room/informal social space and a separate well equipped music studio. In the medium term there is the desire to develop a purpose-built youth centre in Cambourne and initial fundraising efforts towards this goal are in process.