



LEAD YOUTH DEVELOPMENT WORKER – LINTON (CAMBRIDGESHIRE)

Overview

This role offers a unique and exciting opportunity to develop local youth work provision in Linton and manage youth workers operating in surrounding areas, supporting young people (aged 10-21) to overcome challenges, live fulfilling lives and inspire change in the world around them. You will lead an area-based 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, promote inclusion and develop personal, social and spiritual well-being. Romsey Mill is directing this work in partnership with The Beacon Youth Trust, a Christian charity, established and supported by the churches of Linton (Cambridgeshire) and by other local people. Being with Romsey Mill, the Lead Youth Development Worker will benefit from training and development sessions, opportunities to engage with conferences and workshops, and active participation within an innovative and supportive wider team.

The Area of Linton

Linton is a large village (ca.5,000) in Cambridgeshire approximately 8 miles south east from the city of Cambridge, with good transport links to Cambridge and Haverhill. It has a mixed socio-economic population. There are four schools in Linton including Linton Village College, an 11-16 Secondary School with more than 800 on roll from Linton and the surrounding area. Thought to be the only village in England with both a Zoo and a Vineyard, Linton is a visual treat but also a working environment without losing its rural background. Several small businesses offer local employment and more opportunities exist in Cambridge.

Facilities

The Beacon Youth Trust has a community youth facility in Linton consisting of a large space for activities and a small meeting room/informal social space. The Beacon Youth Trust also has strong links with Linton Village College and uses sports and other facilities at the school. Both partner churches offer space and equipment for activities. Romsey Mill Centre in Cambridge offers young people opportunities to access specialist facilities including a music recording studio.

The partnership between The Beacon Youth Trust and Romsey Mill

Romsey Mill, a Christian Charity with 39 years of innovation and experience, has 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 to overcome disadvantage, promote inclusion and develop personal, social and spiritual wellbeing. Romsey Mill works with children, young people and their families from cradle to career: our programmes include Early Years care and education, Family support, Young Parents work, *Aspire* for young people with Autistic Spectrum Conditions, and extensive Youth Development work with young people 'at risk'. Our Youth Development Team currently engages with over 900 young people on a regular basis and has a team of fourteen youth workers including individuals situated in Cambridge City, Peterborough and several South Cambridgeshire localities including Cambourne, Sawston and The Shelfords.

The Beacon Youth Trust is a grass-roots Christian charity aiming to serve the young people of Linton village and the surrounding area. The Beacon Youth Trust is financially supported by two churches from which its trustees are drawn: Linton Free Church (URC), a mixed age church in the evangelical tradition which worships in a contemporary style, and St Mary's Parish Church, an active Anglican Church of open catholic tradition and worship. In the village there is also a small Community Church, Cornerstone, which takes an active and positive interest in the work. The Beacon Youth Trust is also supported financially by Linton Parish Council (local authority) to undertake open, community-based youth work.

The Partnership: Romsey Mill and The Beacon Youth Trust have enjoyed a strong working relationship for some time, based on a unifying Christian ethos and passion for young people and local community. Recognising the distinct yet complementary nature of the two organisations (including Romsey Mill's significant experience and infrastructure support and The Beacon Youth Trust's standing within the local community and close relationship with the Parish Council) the trustees of both organisations are committed to collaboration to ensure the highest standards of youth work provision for the Linton area. This has resulted in the creation of this Lead Youth Development Worker role. The successful candidate will be employed and line managed by Romsey Mill to work collaboratively with Beacon Youth Trust, their part-time youth workers, volunteers and their trustees to establish a holistic range of opportunities and support for young people in the area.