



ROMSEY MILL

Creating opportunities with young people and families

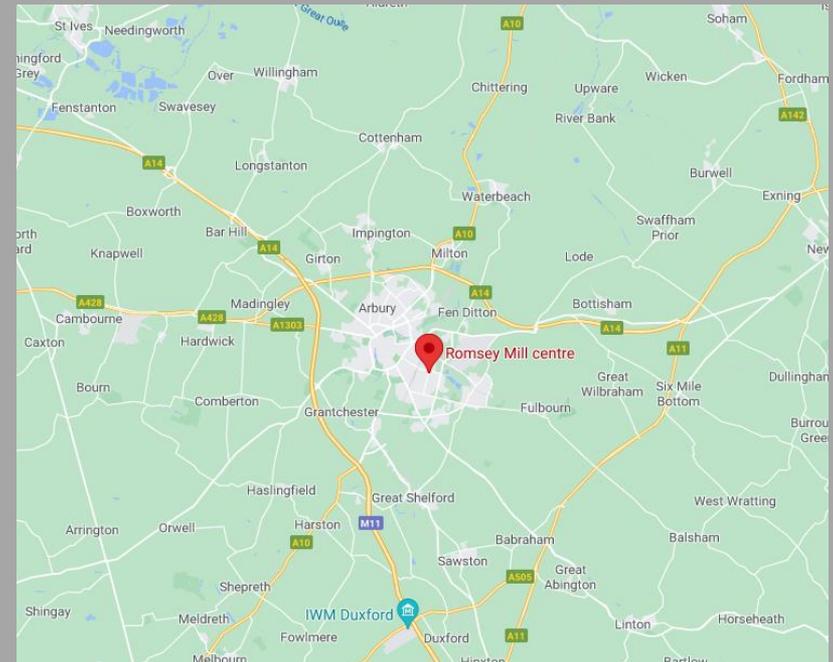
**Youth Development
Worker – Aspire (autism)**

Aspire - Youth Development Worker

This is an exciting opportunity to invest in the lives of autistic young people (aged 9-19) across Cambridge city and the surrounding area, supporting their emotional wellbeing and helping them to overcome challenge and develop social skills. You will work as part of a team of youth workers and volunteers to develop and deliver weekly social groups, shared interest groups, one-to-one work, family support, school-based alternative education, and trips and residential experiences.

Aspire is the name of Romsey Mill's project with autistic children and young people. It currently delivers 12 specialist youth clubs across Cambridge, Cambourne and Linton supporting over 150 autistic young people. You will be based at Romsey Mill Centre and utilise other community facilities for the delivery of activities.

"I have learned to be more adventurous, sociable and open-minded".



Romsey Mill

Who we are

Romsey Mill (romseymill.org) is a Cambridge based charity, creating opportunities with young people, families and local communities across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

Established as a community initiative by local churches in 1980, and now existing as a charitable company, the Romsey Mill team is alongside families with children in their early years, teenage mothers and young fathers, children and young people living through serious life challenges. We grow positive relationships, develop engaging activities, provide practical and emotional support, enable learning and skills progression, promote inclusion and well-being. We do all this as an expression of Christian faith in action. Our staff team is comprised of 45 employees: 17 full-time and 28 part-time, with a full-time-equivalent of 31 staff members.

Romsey Mill has been providing youth work in Cambridgeshire for over 40 years; Aspire has been running for over 15 years and directly supports over 150 autistic children and young people and their families.

Romsey Mill is a registered charity (no. 1069905).



Our Vision and Values

Romsey Mill's vision is of a transformed society where all young people, children, and families fully belong, positively contribute, and thrive. Working to make this vision a reality, the mission and intent of Romsey Mill is to create opportunities with young people, children, families and communities to overcome disadvantage, promote inclusion and develop personal, social, and spiritual wellbeing.

Romsey Mill's vision for the future, and purpose in the present, continue to be inspired by beliefs and values shaped by the Christian faith. We work openly and inclusively with people of any faith and of none.

KEY TASKS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Engagement

- Build positive relationships with autistic children and young people through youth clubs, activities, home visits, one-to-one work and alternative education that increases their confidence, skills, aspirations and inclusion.
- Deliver support packages for children and young who may be struggling to engage in and progress through mainstream education.
- Provide information, advice and guidance that enables individuals to make informed choices so they can make a positive transition into adulthood.
- Support individuals making the transition from primary to secondary school, and from secondary school to post 16/18 options, giving them the best possible opportunity of staying in education, employment or training that is fulfilling and helps them reach their potential.

Development

- Work with others in the team to expand the provision and develop new youth clubs in specific geographical areas based on identified needs.
- Create opportunities for children and young people to develop life skills, in response to the needs identified by the programme participants themselves, their families and others, through courses and one-off sessions, with individuals and small groups.
- Plan and lead residential programmes and trips with children and young people.

Partnerships

- Contribute to partnership working with external organisations and agencies including schools, voluntary sector groups, County Council teams, including the disability team, County District Teams, City and Parish Councils, and health services in developing effective youth work provision.
- Take part in multi-agency meetings concerning specific individuals you're supporting and act as a lead professional where appropriate. Negotiate with other professionals, share information appropriately, plan and co-ordinate meetings.
- Develop partnerships with primary and secondary schools, and post-16 provisions, and key members of staff.

Safeguarding

- Ensure that all activities for which you are responsible are delivered in accordance with agreed health and safety, equal opportunities, safeguarding and other key policies/procedures.

Operations

- Support the recruitment, training and management of teams of volunteers and young leaders to act as positive role models who can support the delivery of Aspire.
- Actively engage in team meetings and contribute to the production of programme development and action plans.
- Be a face-to-face contact with the public, representing Romsey Mill to individuals and organisations and reflecting the Christian values of the organisation to those whom the organisation serves.
- Utilise Romsey Mill Centre and other community facilities for the delivery of youth club provision.

Reporting

- Ensure effective monitoring and information/data gathering is being undertaken to demonstrate the impact of our work.
- Produce written material and photographs suitable for inclusion in reports.
- Contribute to the preparation of funding applications to Trusts and Statutory Funders and other supporters and attend Team meetings as required.

Person Specification

The successful candidate will be passionate about building positive relationships with young people and will possess the necessary skills to develop youth work provision with autistic children and young people:

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Education and Qualifications		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 years of professional youth work experience • General qualification to Level 3 (A levels or equivalent) including Level 2 (GCSE) in English and Maths • A degree • A relevant youth work related qualification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
Experience and Skills		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience in building relationships and developing opportunities with vulnerable children and young people • Ability to relate easily to children and young people and the complex challenges and issues they face • Experience of partnership work • Knowledge and experience of supporting autistic children and young people • Experience in facilitating children and young people's exploration of their values and beliefs thereby encouraging their personal, social and spiritual development. • Proven communication skills – both verbally and in writing • Ability to plan and prioritise workload • Hold a current driving licence • Willing and able to drive a minibus (D1 or Midas permit) or commitment to undertake test • Good understanding of and commitment to Equal Opportunities • Knowledge of Health and Safety and Safeguarding policy and practice • Able to demonstrate some experience of supporting volunteers • Access to a private vehicle for work use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓
Attributes		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A confident and articulate individual able to communicate effectively with children, young people and their families • Passionate about young people and proven ability to lead and develop new projects • Flexible over hours of work • Proactive and enjoy taking initiative and working as part of a dynamic team • Act with integrity and empathises with others • Creative, and can respond to issues as they arise 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ 	

Terms of Employment

This is a full-time role (37.5 hpw) but we will consider fewer hours (minimum 22.5 hpw). There is a need for flexibility, as evenings and some weekends may need to be worked.

- Location :** Romsey Mill Centre, Cambridge
- Contract:** 2-year fixed term with probable extension
- Salary:** £19,698 - £22,183 (FTE, pro-rata for part-time)
A higher salary point may be considered for a candidate with exceptional experience, able to take on more responsibilities.
- Leave:** 25 days pro rata annual holiday plus public holidays
(with further increases based on length of service)
- Pension:** Qualifying Workplace Pension under auto-enrolment
- Training:** In-service training and other learning opportunities
- Other:** Support with relocation costs



How to Apply

You can apply for the role using the online application from at <http://www.romseymill.org/work-for-us/>

Completed application form, with covering letter and monitoring form, should be submitted by **30th July 2021 12pm** to Diane Hicks either by email: diane.hicks@romseymill.org or by post: Romsey Mill Centre, Hemingford Road, Cambridge CB1 3BZ.

Interviews will take place on **Tuesday 10th August 2021**

For any enquiries or to arrange an informal conversation about the role please contact:

Ruth Watt, Aspire co-ordinator, Email: ruth.watt@romseymill.org or call: 01223 213162

FROMSEY MILL

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“I have a sense of belonging and an avenue for support”

