

# Youth Faith Formation Lead and Teaching Fellow in Children, Youth and Family Ministry

Full time, three-year fixed term

Closing Date: **31<sup>st</sup> October 2024**

(c£30000)



**About the job:**

Together with the Methodist Church in Britain, Cliff College is seeking to invest in the creative development of formational opportunities in theology and missional practice for young people and young adults. Coordinating closely with the Evangelism and Growth team, and the Children, Youth and Family team of the Methodist Church, this new role provides an exciting opportunity to design formational programmes, encounters and training that support young people in their Christian discipleship as they transition to young adults. This three-year post also adds capacity to the faculty of Cliff College, focused on teaching and learning that supports mission and ministry among children, youth and families. Together, the elements of this role combine to offer thoughtful and reflective leadership within the Methodist Church in Britain's work among youth and young adults.

**About Cliff:**

Set in the beautiful Peak District in Derbyshire, Cliff College is a Methodist and evangelical learning community, rooted in God's Word and Spirit. The programmes of Cliff College seek to form and equip people for the practice and leadership of Christian mission and evangelism in contemporary contexts. Offering a range of recently renewed programmes of theological and practical study – both onsite and online – the College continues to build on its heritage to establish its position as a global centre for evangelism and missiology.

Click [here](#) to discover more about us.

**Working arrangement:**

The position is based at Cliff College, though includes some need for travel for meetings and events due to the nature of the role. Conversations are possible with the successful candidate if flexibility is needed for a percentage of remote working.

**Faith:**

A specific faith is an essential requirement for this role and in accordance with the Equality Act 2010 it is an occupational requirement that the successful applicant is a practicing Christian.

**Next steps:**

Informal enquiries before making an application should be addressed to Michelle Foulkes by email at [m.foulkes@cliffcollege.ac.uk](mailto:m.foulkes@cliffcollege.ac.uk).

To apply please send a completed application form, with up-to-date CV to Michelle Foulkes. All applications will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

**Important dates:**

<b>Closing date</b>	31 <sup>st</sup> October 2024, 9am
<b>Interview date</b>	7 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
<b>Anticipated start</b>	January 2025

*Note: We reserve the right to close the vacancy earlier than this date and without further notice should we receive a sufficient number of applications, and we therefore encourage interested parties to make an application as soon as possible*

**Job Title:** Youth Faith Formation Lead and Teaching Fellow in Children, Youth, and Family Ministry (Three-year Fixed Term Post)

**Location:** Cliff College, Calver, Hope Valley, Sheffield, S32 3XG

**Responsible to:** Youth and Young Adult Development Officer for MCB; Vice Principal (Academic) for Cliff College

**Internal Relationships:** Mission and Evangelism Placement Team; Cliff Year; Welfare Team; Faculty

**External Relationships:** Methodist Church in Britain (MCB): Evangelism and Growth Team, Children, Youth and Family Team, Global Relations Team; University of Manchester

**Purpose of role:**  
To create and lead a formational programme in theology and mission for youth aged 16+.  
To coordinate a range of encounter events and training opportunities that equip youth and young people to be 'growing, evangelistic, inclusive, and justice-seeking'.  
To contribute to the academic programmes of Cliff College by bringing expertise and thought leadership in children, youth, and family ministry and mission.

<b>Vision 21:</b>	Cliff College: A Global Centre for Evangelism and Missiology.
<b>Aim</b>	To be a Methodist evangelical learning community, rooted in God's Word and Spirit for the purpose of equipping God's people for practical ministry and cutting-edge missional engagement.
<b>Objectives</b>	To enable an <b>encounter</b> of God in an array of places, contexts, and environments, offering the whole Cliff community the opportunity to grow and develop as disciples. To <b>equip</b> individuals, as disciples, through a wide range of formal and informal, validated, and non-validated, onsite, online and hybrid learning opportunities. To <b>engage</b> individuals and groups through a variety of evangelistic and missional opportunities at Cliff, throughout the UK and across the globe.

**Main Responsibilities:**

1. To design, coordinate and lead a formational programme in theology and mission for youth aged 16+ based at/from Cliff College; including:
  - a. liaising with key teams at Cliff College and the Methodist Church in Britain, coordinating the pilot, launch and ongoing review of the programme with existing work and strategies.
  - b. modelling commitment, enthusiasm and expertise in inspiring theological literacy and missional practice among youth and young adults.
  - c. completing administrative duties associated with the delivery of the programme.
2. To develop a range of encounter events (e.g. pilgrimages, missional/relational trips, and festivals) for youth and young adults; by:
  - a. creating intentional spaces and moments for transformational encounter with God and with others that form a 'growing, evangelistic, inclusive, justice-seeking' imagination in youth and young adults.
  - b. collaborating with MCB colleagues in the Children, Youth and Family Team, the Evangelism and Growth Team, and the Global Relations Team to identify, design and develop specific encounter offerings.
3. To create a range of training opportunities for youth and young adults; by:
  - a. liaising with others, including youth and young adults, to identify appropriate training needs coordinated with the priorities of the Methodist Church in Britain.

- b. developing appropriate resources of theological education, formational discipleship, and training in mission and evangelism.
    - c. delivering training resources in a variety of ways, including via online asynchronous learning and synchronous online and onsite events (at Cliff and elsewhere).
  4. To coordinate Cliff College's engagement with youth and young adults at 3Generate, Cliff Festival, and other MCB and Cliff events; by:
    - a. liaising and collaborating with relevant event teams, to ensure that the youth formation initiatives and opportunities developed by this role are intentionally and effectively embedded and promoted.
    - b. contributing as appropriate and agreed to the delivery of the events, in order to further MCB's formational 'journey' for shaping discipleship and mission among youth and young adults.
  5. To contribute to the academic programmes of Cliff College in the subject area of the theology and practice of children, youth, and family mission and ministry; through:
    - a. offering unit leadership for specified children, youth and family ministry units in the College's undergraduate provision (Foundations Unit: Exploring Children, Youth and Family Ministry, and the CYF pathway on the BA Theology and Mission).
    - b. delivering teaching and, as appropriate, coordinating subject specialist contributions from others.
    - c. designing and building online learning resources (recording teaching videos and creating curated learning activities) as an integral part of the College's dual delivery programmes.
    - d. supporting student learning through course communication, seminars and tutorials.
    - e. fulfilling required academic administration arising from teaching responsibilities, including marking formative and summative assessment.
    - f. participating in the annual review and continuous development of the College's curriculum and academic programmes.
    - g. contributing to the coordination and leadership of Generation: The Centre for the Study of Youth, Children and Families Mission and Ministry.
  6. To make a positive contribution to the life of Cliff College and of the Methodist Church in Britain; by:
    - a. fulfilling a key role within the onsite and online community of Cliff College, including through the leadership of worship.
    - b. participating in key College events, such as Graduation and Festival, and key MCB events, such as 3Generate.
    - c. contributing to Cliff College's marketing, recruitment and admissions processes, including recruitment events, in order to promote the formational opportunities designed and delivered by this role.
    - d. offering and developing creative ideas for innovative activities, programmes and partnerships that further the work of Cliff College and of the Methodist Church in Britain.
  7. To complete any other reasonable duties, as required by your line manager.

## Summary of Terms and Conditions:

<b>Contract type</b>	Full time, three-year fixed term.
<b>Working hours</b>	35 hours per week.
<b>Working pattern</b>	Normally Monday-Friday, 9-5; however, flexibility will be required to fulfil the role, including some evening and weekend work.
<b>Rate of pay</b>	c£30,000 per annum.
<b>Annual leave</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Years 1-4: 33 days inclusive of public holidays;</li><li>- Years 5-9: 36 days inclusive of public holidays;</li><li>- Year 10 onwards: 38 days inclusive of public holidays.</li></ul> Annual leave is calculated pro-rata for part-time employees.
<b>Required working</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cliff College annual Festival (dates TBC each year).</li><li>- Cliff College Graduation (dates TBC each year).</li></ul>
<b>Pension</b>	There is a defined contribution pension scheme to which eligible staff will be auto enrolled. Employees who do not meet the auto enrolment criteria are eligible to join the Scheme, subject to certain provisions.
<b>Right to work</b>	Appointment will be conditional on demonstrating the right to live and work within the United Kingdom.
<b>Probationary period</b>	Appointment will be conditional on the completion of a 6-month probationary period. We reserve the right to extend up to 12 months.
<b>Disclosure</b>	Appointment will be conditional subject to a satisfactory enhanced disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS).
<b>Training</b>	There will be the need for extra training, relevant to the role and the requirements of the College and the Methodist Church. All training will be undertaken during contracted hours or recorded as time off in lieu (TOIL).
<b>For Methodist Ministers</b>	For Methodist ministers, standard terms and conditions of appointment (including stipend) apply. This appointment is within the control of the Methodist Church - for information about the nature of this appointment contact the Director of Learning for Ministry in the Connexional Team.

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	Essential	Desirable	Method
<b>Education &amp; Training</b>			
Higher degree (Masters) in the area of theology, practical theology, or missiology with an emphasis on/specialisation in children, youth, and family ministries	Yes		A, Q
PhD (completed or in progress) in these same subject areas		Yes	A, Q
Evidence of engagement in continuous vocational learning and training	Yes		A, Q
<b>Proven Ability</b>			
Experience of working with and leading a community of youth, students, and/or young adults	Yes		A, I
Experience in event management	Yes		A, I
Experience of teaching	Yes		A, I, E
Experience of teaching in the context of higher education.		Yes	A, I, E
Proven experience of ability to work closely as a team with a range of people and interests, including those with differing perspectives.	Yes		A, I
Proven experience of managing a budget	Yes		A, I
Ability to work effectively with Microsoft Office 365 applications including Word, Outlook and Excel	Yes		A, I
Ability to work with a range of software, including an online learning platform		Yes	A, I
Good administrative ability	Yes		A, I
Good planning and organisational skills	Yes		A, I
<b>Specialist Knowledge &amp; Skills</b>			
Awareness of major trends and trajectories in the areas of faith formation and Christian discipleship among children, youth and families	Yes		A, I, E
Proven engagement in the area of subject speciality: theology and practice of ministry with children, youth, and families		Yes	A, I, E
Good communication and interpersonal skills, both verbal and in writing	Yes		A, I, E
Ability to convey complex and conceptual ideas to a variety of audiences	Yes		A, I, E
Ability to maintain confidentiality and discretion	Yes		A, I
<b>Special Qualities or Aptitudes</b>			
Fully in sympathy with and supportive of the vision, ethos and charisms of Cliff College and the Methodist Church in Britain	Yes		A, I, E
Understanding of issues related to the Wesleyan tradition of renewal, holiness and the Spirit-filled life	Yes		A, I, E
A willingness to play an active role in the life of the Cliff community	Yes		A, I
Ability and willingness to work in a collaborative and flexible way	Yes		A, I
Proven awareness of, and sensitivity to, issues of equality, diversity and inclusion and a commitment to the unique value of the individual in all aspects of the Church's life	Yes		A, I
A willingness to work irregular hours including evenings, weekends and overnight	Yes		A, I
Satisfactory disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).	Yes		DBS

Evidence: **A:** Application Form; **I:** Interview; **E:** Exercise; **Q:** Proof of qualification

**Disability:**

Please let us know if you require adjustments making at any stage or to any aspect of the application process or provide us with any information that you feel relevant whilst we consider your application. If you are selected for interview, we will ask if you have any access needs or if you require any reasonable adjustments to be made for the interview.

Please be assured that we will be supportive in discussing reasonable adjustments at all stages of this recruitment process. If you have any questions about the way that we are working, please do not hesitate to contact [g.dixon-gough@cliffcollege.ac.uk](mailto:g.dixon-gough@cliffcollege.ac.uk).

**Entitlement to work in the UK:**

Any job offer will be conditional, subject to confirmation that you are permitted to work in the UK in accordance with the provisions of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996. You will be asked to provide evidence of your entitlement to work in the UK should any an offer of employment is made.

**Experience, knowledge, skills, and abilities:**

The person specification lists minimum requirements for this post. When shortlisting, the selection panel will only consider information contained in your application form and assess this against the person specification.

**References:**

Any job offer will be conditional, subject to the receipt of satisfactory references. One should be from your current or your most recent employer, the second from a previous and relevant work experience. It is important that both referees are able to comment on your suitability to the role.

**Criminal convictions:**

Anyone who applies to work with us will be asked to disclose details of unspent convictions during the recruitment process. Having a criminal record does not necessarily bar you from working for us however this will depend on the type of job that you have applied for and the nature of the conviction.

**Data Protection:**

The information provided on the application form will be held in the strictest confidence. We process this information in line with our privacy policy. If you are successful in your application the information will be used to administer your employment with us. By applying we assume that you agree to the processing of your data in accordance with our privacy policy.

**Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion:**

Our aim is to have a workforce that reflects the diversity of talent, abilities, and skills drawn from across our community. In line with the Equality Act 2010, we will monitor the composition of our workforce to ensure it is representative and that staff are treated equally and fairly.

Recruitment will be made solely on the basis of the applicant's abilities and individual merit as measured against the criteria for the job.

**Other Policies:**

We have a range of policies and processes in place to protect you, to protect us and to safeguard those who use our services. Should a conditional offer of employment be made you commit to work within and actively promote these at all times.

They include, but they are not exhaustive to Health & Safety, Data Protection, the General Data Protection Regulation, Information Governance, Safeguarding, Performance Management, EDI Safeguarding and a range of Personnel and Financial Processes.