



St Lawrence
with St Paul
Longridge

Ignite Children and Youth Leader (KS2-5)



About St Lawrence with St Paul, Longridge

St Lawrence with St Paul serves the vibrant market town of Longridge (population 8,700). Longridge itself is an education, social and shopping hub for the neighbouring villages including Grimsargh, Goosnargh, Ribchester, and Chipping.

Our vision is to **“Follow Jesus in Loving Community”** and a key aspect of this is to see children, young people and families encounter Christ, grow in faith, and play an active part in parish life.

Our church already runs a variety of ministries for younger people — Children’s Church, Walkie Talkies Playgroup, Neuro-Diversity Group, Confirmation classes and Open the Book school assemblies. We have also have a strong link with the Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade. We now wish to expand and strengthen this work through the appointment of a dedicated **Ignite Children and Youth Leader**.

This new role forms part of Blackburn Diocese’s **Ignite Project** (<https://www.bdeducation.org.uk/ignite-project-2/>), funded in partnership with the Diocesan Board of Finance (DBF) and Diocesan Board of Education (DBE), helping parishes invest in sustainable, long-term children’s, youth and family ministry and includes the offer of a programme of study with Emmanuel Theological College.



Purpose of the role

To develop and grow a dynamic children and youth ministry with a particular emphasis on helping young people engage with the Christian faith and Church life as they transition from primary school into high school and throughout their teenage years.

Main aims of the role

- Build and grow trusted relationships with children in Years 5–6 to support their journey of faith such that we're able to expand the Youth Ministry we can offer as they transition into high school.
- Help in the launch and development of new community facing and family-friendly worship service which encourages a “faith in the family” model.
- Enable children and youth to encounter the love of Jesus through wider gathering experiences such as local holiday clubs and youth retreats, participation in Blackburn Diocese youth events such as *Abide*, and organise trips to larger Christian youth events such as Youthscape's 'Satellites' summer gathering.
- Recruit, equip and support children and youth volunteers.
- Strengthen our existing relationship with Longridge C of E Primary School and Longridge High School through assemblies, and the launch of a High School Christian Union.
- Explore ways to develop relationships with other groups of children and youth in the Longridge community, for instance with Barnacre Road Primary School
- Help the parish evaluate and expand ministry to the children and youth in Longridge in line with the vision of Blackburn Diocese.



Role	Ignite Children and Youth Leader (KS2-5)
Employer	St Lawrence with St Paul, Longridge, Parochial Church Council
Salary	£26,000-30,000 according to qualifications and experience.
Holiday entitlement	28 days including statutory days.
Training entitlement	Funded Ignite Project mentoring and the offer of a programme of study with Emmanuel Theological College. You can see more here: Youth Ministry
Hours	This is a full-time post of 35 hours per week, including most Sundays with occasional evening work.
Tenure of the post	This is a permanent position, initially grant funded for the first five years with a vision to become financially sustainable over the long term.
Normal Place of Work	St Lawrence with St Paul, Longridge, with some home working.
Pension	8% (3% employer + 5% employee).
Probation	6 Months
Equipment	Laptop and mobile phone provided
Reporting	Regular reviews with the Line Manager, Rev. Jesse Adesina.
Safeguarding	Enhanced DBS check required.



Duties / Objectives & Responsibilities	
Duties and Responsibilities	• Lead on discipleship and nurture faith in children and young people. • Contribute to prayer life, worship and leadership of St Lawrence with St Paul's Church. • Participate in diocesan Ignite training, mentoring and "Forge Days." • Plan, lead and evaluate creative faith-based teaching materials for children and youth. • Partner with schools and Children and Youth based community groups to share Christian values and offer pastoral support. • Champion children, young people and families in the life of the church. • Together with the Parish Safeguarding Officer and Vicar, ensure all Children's and Youth related ministries comply with safeguarding and safer-recruitment requirements. • Manage budgets, publicity, and communication for youth and family activities. • Any other duties as required

Person Specification	
Education, Skills and Training	
Essential	• Five GCSE qualifications at Grade C or above (or Equivalent) preferably including English Language and Maths. • Committed follower of Jesus Christ with active church involvement. • Passionate about seeing children and young people come to faith. • Experience of leading or supporting children's/youth ministry. • Strong understanding of safeguarding • Understanding of child development. • Strong organisational, communication and teamwork skills. • Ability to motivate and equip volunteers. • IT and social-media literacy, for example Microsoft Office.
Desirable	• Qualification in youth/children's work, ministry or theology (or willingness to train through the Ignite Project). • Experience working in schools or community settings.

		Criteria assessed by		
Experience		Application	Interview	Reference
Essential	An active member of a Christian church with a personal living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. <i>*Given the nature and context of the work, it is an occupational requirement that the post holder should be a communicant member of the Church of England or a full member of a church within Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, in order to fulfil the main purpose of the post. This post is therefore exempt under Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.</i>	✓	✓	✓
	Experience of working within a team.	✓	✓	✓
	Experience of leading and nurturing teams of volunteers.	✓	✓	✓
Desirable	First-hand experience of leading or co-ordinating activities for children.	✓	✓	
	Experience of working in a local church context.	✓	✓	✓



		Criteria assessed by		
Knowledge and Skills		Application	Interview	Reference
Essential	A clear understanding of young people and principles of children's work, including reaching them with the gospel and discipling them.		✓	
	Working knowledge and commitment to safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of children/youth.		✓	
	The ability to provide relevant Biblical teaching in a range of children and youth settings.	✓	✓	
Desirable	Excellent communication and people skills to connect and communicate with children and families		✓	
	IT literate, including use of social media and word processing.	✓		✓

		Criteria assessed by		
Qualities		Application	Interview	Reference
Essential	• Able to evidence an active devotional life, a consistent Christian character and a commitment to live and minister under the authority of the Bible. • Able to share the Christian faith in a way children and youth can relate to. • Able to show genuine desire and enthusiasm for leading children and youth into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. • Able to relate effectively with a wide spectrum of people (i.e. adults, young people and children). • Able to communicate effectively in person and in writing. • Able to motivate self and others and to manage use of time. • Able to manage administration effectively, managing own diary and activities and recognising the importance of doing so. • Able to initiate and develop quality projects, groups and activities and adapt to changing priorities and circumstances. • Able to present a strong, loving Christian role model.	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓	✓ ✓
Desirable	• Able to set and work to goals without direct supervision.		✓	
Other – Essential	• Commitment to engage in professional and spiritual development. • Access to appropriate transport for travel within the area.	✓	✓	



Technical matters

- In accordance with Blackburn Diocesan requirements, St Lawrence with St Paul's PCC have adopted the diocesan safeguarding and safer recruitment policies.
- The role will be subject to a six-month probationary period.
- During the probationary period one week's notice of termination of employment will be required on either side, thereafter increasing to 4 weeks' notice.
- The post is subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- Note, this Job Description does not form part of your Contract of Employment.
- Right to Work Check: the successful candidate will need to provide documents to show their eligibility to work in the UK.
- Pension Information: a pension of 8% is applicable to this role, consisting of a 3% employer contribution and a 5% employee contribution.

Application details

For an informal conversation, contact:

Revd Mike Barton – ✉ revmikebarton@gmail.com ☎ 07866 508697

Or **Rev Jesse Adesina** - ✉ revjesseadesina@gmail.com ☎ 07776750695

Completed application forms should be submitted by **Monday 1st December 2025**.

Interviews will be held on Wednesday **10th December 2025**

Application forms should be sent to: revjesseadesina@gmail.com

More information about St Lawrence with St Paul can be found on our website:

<https://www.stlawrencewithstpaul.org.uk/>

ignite PROJECT

The Ignite Project is part of Diocese of Blackburn's ambitious vision to see Jesus made known amongst children & young people in Lancashire. We seek to equip the local church to more than double the numbers of active disciples of Jesus in these ages.

We know that employing a youth or children's minister is the biggest common factor to seeing sustainable growth of youth and children's ministry. Therefore we are strategically placing 30 youth and children's leaders in parishes across Lancashire to **enable** greater engagement with local young people, pioneering vibrant, faith-filled communities, events and activities that inspire and **nurture** young people's spiritual growth; space to encounter Jesus, exploring what following Him looks like today. All to see them become a lifelong **disciple** of Jesus whose faith roots run deep and find a home in their local church family. Each parish that employs an Ignite Leader shares the vision and works together with the Ignite Project Team to see this vision come into fruition; reaching growing numbers of children and young people with the love of God through supportive and Spirit-filled ministry.

Ignite Leaders will receive monthly training (Forge Days), regular mentoring, and have the opportunity to access a programme of study with Emmanuel Theological College. The Ignite Project seeks to be a catalyst for growth, creating lasting change through equipping churches to nurture faith and disciple future generations for a life a disciple of Jesus, whilst developing a network of passionate and dedicated youth and children's ministers who are valued, care for and invested in across the Diocese.