

## POSITION DESCRIPTION

### Youth Minister

The youth minister of St Toms is tasked with serving young people and their families with God's words within the broader church. This objective is centred upon leading and delivering our regular youth program, Clay.

### Competencies

The youth minister must meet these core competencies:

- Able to lead and organise a team
- Able to plan and deliver a program for young people
- Able to communicate appropriately with young people
- Able to handle the Bible carefully and faithfully

### Expectations

The youth minister is expected to be a leader of child safety in every area of ministry and church life. This commitment is exercised within the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne's various Codes of Conduct and legislation.

The youth minister is expected to be committed to ongoing learning and training for themselves and their team. As youth ministry is a specialised ministry requiring particular knowledge and skills, this will often be found outside St Toms's structures and must be found, assessed, accessed, and committed to by the youth minister.

It is further expected the youth minister is committed to the Bible, lives a life of faithful discipleship, and is actively engaged with the life and practices of the worshipping community of St Thomas'. Evangelical convictions of ministry underpin St Thomas' life, and cooperation with these convictions is considered essential.

### Responsibilities

The core responsibilities of the youth minister are serving young people within the context of the church through a team of youth leaders.

Serving young people: The youth minister is responsible for organising, leading, and delivering the regular youth program. This includes regular and ongoing Bible engagement, focusing on discipleship, formation, and evangelism. The program's goal is to engage young people with the gospel of Christ using the community and a curriculum of Bible engagement.

*St Thomas' guiding practice, for ministry among children, is **Open, Supervised and Safe.***

Team of youth leaders: The program is to be delivered by a team of youth leaders from within the church who are likewise committed to child safety, Bible engagement, and integration in church life. The youth minister leads, trains, and supports this team, which includes ongoing recruitment of team members.

Context of church: The youth minister's responsibility is to help the church prioritise young people everywhere.<sup>1</sup> This means advocating for young people and their contributions at all levels of church life and enabling connections between young people and the rest of the church. Attention is also envisaged to the pathways of children into youth programs and young adults exiting youth programs.

## Support

The youth minister can expect support from the staff team and the senior minister.

The lead minister supervises the youth minister on a basis to be decided between them. The youth minister will also have recourse to the child safety officers for support in understanding and implementing child-safe practices. As a member of the staff team, they will be supported as members of a church-wide team of program delivery.

External support for the specialised area of youth ministry is expected to be available to the youth minister and to be negotiated with the lead minister in terms of time commitments and associated costs.

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<sup>1</sup> 'prioritise everywhere' is a phrase taken from Grow Young, research that demonstrates that successful youth ministries are those which prioritise young people in every area of church life (decision-making, worship services, program design, mission).