

## Youth & children's Review

The October 2014 Youth and Children's' Review document makes a number of recommendations which deacons have discussed and **propose** the following initial actions. These actions will be discussed and agreed at the January 2015 members' meeting.

1. Form a youth and children's oversight and planning team – accept

The team will include leaders and representatives across all activity groups, chaired by the deacon responsible for youth and children's activities. If agreed, the team would be established as soon as possible after the January members' meeting, led by David Mildenhall.

The team would meet four times per annum to review the previous quarter, share experiences and best practice, plan the forthcoming programme/ activities, share and agree the material to be used and address any issues/risks. A role of this team would be to communicate across age groups and to the relevant deacon and members. Communication would be two way, taking the opportunity to share information from deacons and others.

This group would produce termly written summaries of forthcoming activities/ content, requests for prayer etc for the congregation and website.

2. Commissioning of leaders, volunteers, young people and children at the beginning of September each year – accept

This would be incorporated into the service calendar by Steve Robinson.

3. Set up a prayer network specifically for youth and children's work – accept

This would be set up as soon as possible by Nick Arnold.

4. A regular social event to say thank you to all volunteers – deacons will consider further in the context of encouraging volunteers across all groups and activities.

5. Safeguarding working group to validate the recruitment process – accept

Safeguarding at GHBC is already well advanced, however this will be re-communicated through the oversight team. Claire Watts and Heather Pictor will work with the team to ensure that the recruitment process is fully understood as soon as the Team has been set up. In the meantime the current procedures will be communicated to all volunteers in youth and children's groups by Claire as per current practice. This will also be included in the induction and on-going training below.

6. Training provision for new volunteers and annual training/networking session – accept

David Mildenhall would discuss options with Dan Jones and propose a training programme to commence in 2015. The option of pastoral mentoring for volunteers will be considered as part of this. David would also engage Claire Watts in training plans.

7. Define roles and responsibilities for youth and children's leaders and establish a constitution/charter to unite volunteers – accept.

Work has already started on setting out roles and responsibilities for all church departments which is being led by Mark Harris – this would be expanded to include a charter those working with the youth and children, led by David Mildenhall. The target for completion is 30 June 2015.

8. Communication:

- a. Designate a nominated person responsible for communication within each group – agree  
Build through the oversight team – David Mildenhall
- b. Facebook page – agree in principle  
Investigate options within rules and GHBC policy – Lars Relton
- c. Appoint a GHBC communication officer to coordinate communication within GHBC and the local community – suggest this is moved to a wider action outside the Youth Review.

Lars Relton would review communication and media across the whole of GHBC and the local community, to confirm strengths, weaknesses and opportunities, so that future developments are coordinated. The review and recommendations to be completed by 30 September.

9. Listening to young people and children – agree

The diaconate will take this forward as part of the wider GHBC Vision and develop opportunities beyond those which already exist to communicate with and engage with young people and children. The diaconate will also maximise the opportunity to review feedback from the proposed oversight team as outlined in recommendation 1 – Steve Robinson would lead this.

10. Survey reviews

The diaconate will continue to review the feedback from the Survey and address the concerns raised, as appropriate.