

# WE'RE SEEKING A COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER

If you are enthusiastic about helping young people make the most of their lives, then we would love to hear from you!



## JOIN THE TEAM!

[MATRIXTRUST.COM](http://MATRIXTRUST.COM)

Matrix | Allen House Pavilion, Guildford, Surrey | 01483 574900

Dear Applicant,

Thanks for your interest in joining the Matrix Family.

### Why Matrix?

We're a fun team who work hard to achieve the aim of catalysing change for young people across Guildford Borough. We're passionate about building long-term relationships and providing activities within schools and the community that nurture, inspire, connect and empower young people, helping them make the most of their lives.

Right now, we are responding to the needs of young people by consolidating our established projects and continuing to develop new ones as the need arises. We're looking to add to our team with passionate people who are keen to invest for the long-term, willing to put in the energy needed to make a tangible difference.

### Why Guildford?

Don't be put off, thinking there are no needs amongst young people in Guildford, it's not what it seems on the surface. The needs of young people here are very real, amongst those who have, and those who don't – from mental health issues, to social isolation and from a lack of opportunities to poor life skills, for young people in Guildford life can be tough.

Most years we work with over 500 young people on a regular basis, providing in-depth support for needs ranging from mental health to social and emotional development, and work with 500 + other young people across a range of activities and provision. The last few years have obviously been challenging for everyone, with Covid-19 taking its toll, especially so with regard to young people's mental health and wellbeing - making this role even more vital. Take a look at our latest newsletter online to read some of our young people's stories!

### Where does this role fit?

Our Community Youth Workers do a variety of face-to-face delivery as well as develop and improve provision. Focussing on key locations across the Borough, our provision responds to localised needs and works in collaboration with churches, schools and other organisations - the successful candidate will be creative and passionate about building trusting relationships with young people. If you love a varied role, can take initiative and don't mind mucking in, this could be the role for you.

### Come and join the adventure!

Thanks again for taking time to look at our vacancies and I hope that you consider applying to become part of our growing team.

Kind regards,



Dan, CEO



# COMMUNITY YOUTH WORKER

## OVERVIEW

Matrix are a Christian organisation that deliver essential youth work to young people from all walks of life in schools & communities across Guildford Borough.

**We're excited to offer a full-time Youth Worker role in our Schools and Communities teams**

*The post-holder will lead and deliver face-to-face youth work in schools and across the community, such as: one-to-one support, sporting activities, workshops, group sessions, detached, youth clubs, and social activities.*

**Hours: Full Time, 37.5 hours per week | Salary: £22,271 - £26,725 (depending on experience)**

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## Role Description

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*This is an exciting and innovative role for a community-minded individual to join our established and evolving charity. This role provides an opportunity to engage with and offer advice and support to children, young people and their families across Guildford Borough through undertaking assessments and delivering a range of evidence-based interventions.*

### What will I be doing?

The role of Community Youth Worker is, by nature, highly relational and is a position of great influence that enables you to nurture, inspire, connect and empower young people from all walks of life, so they can make the most of their lives. As such, it is a role which is demanding and carries great responsibility, but provides exciting opportunities to impact the lives of young people.

This is a varied role which carries with it a variety of different aspects and you are expected to manage your own workload and diary and priorities in liaison with your line manager and with the available time. Your role is primarily delivery but does also include some coordination relating to projects and volunteers. Due to the nature of the work you will be expected to work some evenings and occasional weekends.

### What do we expect from you?

To meet, build healthy relationships with and help improve the lives of young people in Guildford Borough. This will be achieved through a variety of activities according to the needs of young people and the resources available to Matrix, including, but not exclusive to:

### Community Youth Work

Community Youth Work takes many forms and while the actual work is subject to change according to the current needs of young people or Matrix, it may include:

- Detached youth work
- Running/assisting with after-school and/or holiday clubs
- Mentoring young people
- Supporting young people in a social enterprise environment
- Research of young people's needs in the local community

## Youth Café

The Youth Hideaway is our flagship project and is a fun open access youth café run by our team after school at our social enterprise café - The Hideaway.

As a Community Youth Worker some of your time will be spent assisting the Youth Café Project Lead and Head of Youth Work in delivering this project and it may include:

- Helping to create a safe, fun and inspiring environment for the young people that attend
- Plan, prepare and deliver quality youth sessions
- Build healthy relationships with young people that attend the sessions, identifying and responding to the needs that may arise
- Promote the activities of the Youth Café in the community

## Monthly Youth Hubs

Youth Hubs are fun open access youth clubs run by our youth workers in the community. These are run on a monthly basis on rotation in different areas within Guildford Borough. As a Community Youth Worker you will be responsible for planning, organising and running at least one HUB, which may include:

- Creating a safe, fun and inspiring environment for the young people that attend
- Planning, preparing and delivering quality youth club sessions
- Building healthy relationships with young people that attend the club sessions, identifying and responding to the needs that may arise
- Promoting the activities of the Youth Hub in the community
- Exemplify the charity's values and Christian ethos to the wider 'Hubs' team, leading them in prayer where appropriate.

## GASP Motor Project

Matrix will often work in collaboration with partner organisations and following a successful run of pilot sessions we are pleased to confirm that from September 2022 we will be extending our work with GASP Motor Project.

Working in this setting is very similar to the mentoring work that we offer in schools and you may be expected to:

- Conduct one-to-one sessions to listen to, analyse and respond to the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual needs of young people
- Manage, monitor and evaluate caseloads as part of the one-to-one support sessions
- Develop and run a variety of contact points for the young people attending the project, including group sessions
- Build good working relationships with the GASP team

## **Schools Work**

Our work in schools is varied and you may be expected to:

- Conduct one-to-one sessions to listen to, analyse and respond to the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual needs of young people
- Manage, monitor and evaluate caseloads within your allocated school as part of the one-to-one support sessions
- Develop and run a variety of contact points and projects for young people across the school, including group sessions and drop-ins and after school projects
- Alongside the Secondary Schools Project Lead, supervise and build a team of volunteers to work within the school
- Build good working relationships with school staff, CAMHS and other relevant local services

## **General**

- Contribute to, and be involved in fundraising and other activities that benefit Matrix, including whole staff workshop days, fundraising activities.
- During school holidays and after school, be involved in projects organised and run by Matrix, including holiday and after-school clubs (e.g. our Youth Café - The Youth Hideaway) within your allocated hours and as agreed by your line manager
- Raise the positive profile of Matrix by building professional relationships in a multi-agency environment including through networking events in the relevant local area, such as meeting with the community safety wardens, local schools, churches, Police and PCSOs
- Represent Matrix by providing a positive role-model to young people
- Promoting our activities in both the community and in a school environment through; social media engagement and assemblies
- Ensure you work to the Youth Work Standards

## **Level of Authority**

As a Community Youth Worker, you will need to operate with a high degree of autonomy. You will be expected to administer your own time and workload in liaison with your line manager, keeping an 'open' diary for all activities. A working timetable for school holidays will be developed in consultation with your line manager.

## Personal Specification

### Essential

- A strong youth work background in a relevant field e.g.: youth work, teaching, social work
- Able to relate well to young people in all environments including (but not exclusively) school, 1:1, open youth clubs and partner projects
- Capable of building relationships with and liaising with other professionals
- Experience of leading workshops and / or groups sessions with young people
- Able to set appropriate boundaries with young people, in all situations
- Agree with and able to support and work within the Christian ethos of The Matrix Trust. (This job has a "genuine occupational requirement" (GOR) for the post to be filled by a Christian).
- Able to work effectively alone and as a part of a team (including with volunteers)
- Good IT skills
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- This role will require the applicant to travel between multiple locations (local to Guildford) at various times

### Desirable

- Professional qualification in a youth work related area (NVQ level 3 or equivalent)
- Experience of working in a school environment in a youth work capacity
- Experience in mentoring
- Experience of working with young people with behavioural difficulties, at risk of exclusion and/or Young offenders
- Experience of leading a team of volunteers

### What we offer you

- 5 weeks paid holiday, plus bank holidays
- An additional three days leave when the office shuts between  
Christmas & New Year
- Training that develops your skill base (as needed)
- Flexible working arrangements, where possible
  - A nurturing and supportive team
  - A staff discount in The Hideaway Café

**Hours: Full-Time, 37.5 hours per week**

**Salary: £22,271 - £26,725 per annum (depending on experience)**



# JOIN THE TEAM!

## HOW TO APPLY

1. Complete our **Application Form**
2. Email it to **hr@matrixtrust.com**

Any questions, just give Josh a call on: 07508 934079

**Closing date: 12:00, 14th June 2024**

**Start date: TBC**

*Please note we reserve the right to close this role should we receive a sufficient number of applications.*

*Please apply as soon as possible to be considered.*

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