

Ministry Trainee Emmanuel Church

Chesham, Buckinghamshire

Employed Ministry Trainee Scheme

**To know Jesus and make Him known
in Chesham and the world**

Are you looking to explore life in full time ministry or mission?

Do you want to grow your gifts through hands-on experience of the ministries you want to explore in the local church ?

Are you hungry for theological and biblical training that fits you?

Keen to have a Christ-centred team/church support you as you practically serve in the ministry you want to grow in?

If so, we would love you to join our ministry trainee scheme!

If you want to find out more about what it would look like to be invested in at Emmanuel get in touch!

Closing date 10 April 26.

Want to talk further or make an application?
Contact the Team vicar, Rev. Edward Millais
E: edward@emmanuelchesham.org T: 07840 246 914
W: www.emmanuelchesham.org



MT Scheme Description

Ideal for recent graduates, those considering a career change or anyone wanting to explore full-time, long-term Christian ministry of any variety. A desire to work in music ministry would be an advantage.

1 Biblical and Theological training

We support your conferences and training at either

- Cornhill Foundation Course in London (one day a week during term time);
- South Central Gospel Partnership Ministry Training Course based at St Ebbe's Church in Oxford for one day a week during term time, over two years.

2 Ministry Training & Experience

You choose which ministries you want training/experience in.

Most local ministry opportunities are available at Emmanuel, with opportunities to serve in music, kids work, teenagers, men & women's ministry, mission and cross cultural ministry. Level of leadership and responsibility will depend upon experience and gifting, but there will be plenty of opportunity to teach the Bible in different contexts. Agree your programme with the vicar.

Specific training opportunities could include: preaching workshops with staff and lay preachers; evangelism training with our minister of evangelism (courses/door to door/marketplace); weekly mentoring and feedback with the vicar and/or ministry team; experiencing other church traditions and demographics in the wide variety of ministries within Chesham Parish Churches.

3 Practical Service: Training and Involvement

We would expect the ministry trainee to play a full part in the life of the church in general, especially being visible and available on a Sunday. Your involvement in this part of the scheme will be both practical (such as help with set up) and spiritual (teaching and worship where appropriate).



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Essential Characteristics

- 1 A **committed Christian** with classic evangelical convictions regarding God's word, the substitutionary power of Christ's Cross and the need for personal regeneration by the Spirit.*
- 2 **An evangelical in practice**, able to explain Christian belief with clarity.
- 3 Someone with **a growing Christ-like character**, showing love for God and a reliance on His grace in our ministry.
- 4 Faithful in **nurturing your own Christian walk** with Christ through personal prayer and Bible study.
- 5 **Hungry for God to be glorified** in his people and locally. Humility, a **teachable heart** and a willingness to learn new skills.
- 6 **Ability to work in a team**, with a flexible approach to areas of responsibility.

Desirable Skills

- 7 **Musical and/or sporting ability.**
- 8 **Competence and confidence in use of IT and audio/visual resources in worship and teaching.**



* Genuine Occupational Requirement

Having regard to the ethos of the organisation, as well as to the nature and context of the work, an occupational requirement applies to the position for the successful candidate to be a Christian in wholehearted agreement with our Christian ethos, doctrines and beliefs which include the Church of England Evangelical Council's Declaration of Faith and Additional Declarations, as well as the PCC's 2015 resolution affirming a traditional biblical understanding of marriage (Hebrews 13:4,7).

Role Details

Some Specifics

Role title: Ministry Trainee (2 Years)

Start Date: September 26

Scheme Mentor: Team Vicar, Emmanuel Chesham. We encourage one mentor relationship outside the parish in addition.

Agreement: A training agreement to be created, agreed & signed by both you and the Team Vicar, Emmanuel Chesham, setting out responsibilities and expectations.

Probationary Period: as a new employee you will start on probationary status for a period of 6 months.

Enhanced DBS: this is a scheme for which an enhanced DBS will be required. You will be expected to abide by Parish codes of conduct and practices, copies of which will be made available to you.

Name of Benefice: Parish of Great Chesham.

Episcopal Area: Buckingham Archdeaconry in the Diocese of Oxford.

Deanery: Amersham.

Holiday

The full-time norm in the ministry team is to work 6 days, with a continuous period of 24 hours rest taken on a day to be agreed with the Team Vicar. We encourage 2 weeks every 6 months with a further week at both Christmas and Easter. Annual holiday allowance is 30 days (including Bank Holidays) with a maximum of 6 Sundays off per year.

Office

There will be space available in the Emmanuel Church Office. We will endeavour to supply all devices and equipment needed for your training.

Expenses

All your working expenses will be paid by the Parish. In addition to expenses, an annual book allowance is given, plus the cost of a conference and camp to help towards your personal development.

Day-to-Day Responsibilities

- Pursuing the goals of your agreed scheme.
- Planning and working with the Team Vicar and staff team of Emmanuel.
- Attending training & weekly staff team meetings.
- Meeting regularly with the Team Vicar.
- Helping the ministry team in event of holidays, sickness and vacancies.

Other Responsibilities

- Identifying personal development and training needs.
- Undergo annual review with Team Vicar and spiritual leadership.
- Occasional contribution to wider church life and parish youth and children's ministry.
- To rest.



Our Staff Team



Church Wardens: Sarah Tasker and Tim Allan

The church wardens are enthusiastic and passionate in their desire to serve Emmanuel well, being actively involved in many areas of church life.



Team Vicar: Rev. Edward Millais

Edward started as the Team Vicar in September 2022 after many years at St Andrew's, Chelsea as a member, Ministry Trainee and Curate. He is married with three kids under 12. He attended Oak Hill College and is excited about equipping people for works of service and to see the next generation taught the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord.



Minister for Evangelism: Andrew Patterson

Andrew is our Minister for Evangelism. Andrew has been in Chesham and working at Emmanuel since 2007 after studying at Oak Hill College. He preaches regularly, enjoys schools' ministry and runs courses for seekers at Emmanuel. Andrew has a heart for evangelism and reaching the local community with the gospel.



Women's Worker: Sarah Williams

Sarah has done a number of the Biblical Counselling UK Courses at Oak Hill Theological College and is excited about growing in this ministry amongst the Emmanuel church family, where she has been a longstanding member. Sarah is married with three children.



Christians Against Poverty Debt Centre Manager: Laura Burgin

Laura was appointed as Emmanuel's CAP Debt Centre Manager in September 2026. She is excited about growing this pre-existing ministry and seeing God use it to keep the culture at Emmanuel reaching people of all backgrounds with the compassion of Christ. Laura is married with two kids.



Safeguarding Officer & Administrator: Linda McNamara

Linda works alongside the Team Vicar, providing secretarial support and taking care of some church administration. She is also Emmanuel's Safeguarding Officer and has served faithfully in this role for many years. Linda is the fount of all knowledge for all things Emmanuel and has been part of the church family for more than 40 years.



Church Manager: Joan Jeffery

Joan is our Church Manager; she is responsible for the day-to-day operational needs of the church in a part-time role.



Ministry Trainee: Lois Brown

Lois joined the team in July 25 for a 2 year Ministry Trainee program. Her ministry focus is children and youth ministry and general pastoral care. Lois has a background and degree in Musical Theatre and is married to Nathanael.

Summary and Next Steps

What this scheme offers

All the fullness of serving Jesus full time!

You will have an opportunity to grow in the areas of ministry you want to experience and to grow in the gifting the Lord has given you. There's also the chance to rub shoulders with a large, experienced ministry team in different contexts and others training for ministry. You will be joining a fresh, committed and welcoming church and parish team with a vision for mission and growth at Emmanuel and across the parish.

What you would bring

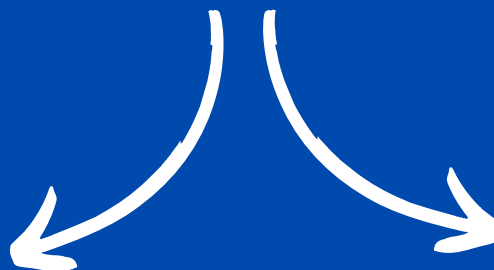
A love for Jesus and his people, a heart for service and learning!

A desire to see God's kingdom flourish through Emmanuel and to see others drawn into that community and for him to use your gifts in that. An enjoyment in growing in your ministry that encourages others to consider following you!

Meet Emmanuel and Chesham

Read on below...

Have a chat or apply



Team Vicar: Edward Millais

E: edward@emmanuelchesham.org
T: 07840 246 914

To apply for this post please email office@emmanuelchesham.org for an application form

If you would like an informal conversation, please contact our Team Vicar, Edward Millais.

If you are shortlisted, financial help for travel expenses is available. Please email office@emmanuelchesham.org to find out more.

Welcome to Chesham

Chesham is an historic Buckinghamshire market town which lies 30 miles north-west of London and is a 50-minute journey from Baker Street station and 30 min from Luton International Airport, nestled in the Chiltern Hills, it is home to about 27,000 people. It was known for its four 'B's – beer, boots, brushes and Baptists – which gives a good indication of its industrial and Christian heritage.

The town is less affluent than its neighbours but retains the independent spirit which made it a powerhouse of non-conformity from the 16th to early 20th centuries. That is tempered by the fact that Thomas Harding was martyred here in 1532 for reading the Bible in English.

The high standards of its 13 schools have helped Chesham become a favoured location for families. There is a mix of state and independent schools, including Chesham Grammar School and the Chiltern Hills Academy (a Church of England Academy). Parish staff enjoy a close relationship with many of the schools.

There is a CAP - Christians Against Poverty - centre, based at Emmanuel. There is also a Community Fridge, and a busy Foodbank, which is supported by several of the churches in Chesham.

There are three supermarkets and the high street features a 'shabby-chic' collection of independent stores, charity shops and restaurants. The twice weekly market is a great focal point.



The Chesham community is diverse, with some wealthy areas and two of the most deprived wards in Buckinghamshire. It has been blessed for many decades with people from all over the world. Church leaders have established good relationships with the town's mosque leaders.

Chesham is a vibrant, challenging and surprisingly real place where compassion, tolerance and community are cherished. Its very diversity presents a challenge to the churches, calling for creativity and sensitivity in evangelism and disciple-making.





A5183

Harpenden

Berkhamsted

Hemel Hempstead

A41

Chesham

Lye Green

Emmanuel Church, Broad St, Chesham HP5 3EF

Emmanuel Church

Amersham

Rickmansworth

A355

Edgware

Maonsfield

M40

Harrow

Colne Valley Regional Park

A40

Wembley

A40

Slough

Hayes

Southall

M25

M4

Brentford

Windsor

Our Vision and Identity

Our Identity

Emmanuel is an active and vibrant Anglican Evangelical Church. Informal and welcoming, our church family is made up of all ages and backgrounds, where everyone has a part to play. We are an outward-looking church, encouraging each person to encounter Christ and to live for Him in every area of life.

Our Vision

Our vision is to know Jesus and to make Him known in Chesham and the world.

We are:

- A united church that feels like a family and loves to spend time together.
- A sending church that plants and equips people for ministry.
- A church that has many committed and sacrificial givers and volunteers.
- A church that God has blessed with many gifts including those who teach and preach God's word, musicians who support our gathered worship on a Sunday and those gifted with technology and administration.
- A church that is becoming more diverse and increasingly reflects our community.
- A church that wants to engage more with younger families and our Muslim neighbours.
- A church that benefits from being part of a wider team of churches whilst retaining a high degree of local autonomy.

We have:

- Adopted the basis of faith and declarations from the Church of England Evangelical Council.
- Adopted the ReNew Agenda, as a commitment to pioneer, establish and secure gospel churches.



Our Values

We are a church committed to the worship of God. Our worship of God is expressed by a passionate commitment to...

... the Bible as the word of God

The Bible and its preaching and teaching are fundamental to everything we do. Our Sunday services are shaped around the preaching of God's Word and is largely expository in style.

... personal and corporate prayer

We reflect our dependence on God through praying together when we gather on Sundays and during the week. Homegroups, prayer triplets and our monthly Emmanuel Prayer Meeting (Emmanuel Evening) are regular ways we express our commitment to prayer.

... local and global mission

We long to make Jesus known by encouraging personal and church-based evangelism, seeking opportunities to do this through loving and practical serving of our community. We want to continue to make our church services accessible and welcoming to all kinds of people. We are also committed to supporting the work of our mission partners across the world.

... living as the family of God

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we seek to nurture people of all ages, backgrounds and life situations, equipping them for godliness and holy living. We aim to support one another and share in each other's joys and sorrows.

... wise stewardship of God's world

Knowing that everything belongs to God, we encourage cheerful and generous giving and wise use of His resources for His purposes.



Worship Services

Every Sunday there are services at 10am and 6pm, centring on Bible teaching, prayer and praise. Holy Communion is celebrated both morning and evening once a month.

The morning service is well attended by families with young children. There is a crèche for under-3s, three Sunday School groups for 3-11 year olds, and Pathfinders for 11-14s. Approximately once a month, the morning service is all-age and children stay in for the whole service which includes an engaging message that aims to connect with all ages. The average attendance at the morning service is 120 adults and 40 children. The informal evening service is smaller and slightly more reflective while the teaching remains expository. This has an average attendance of 50 adults including several of our teens.

Our sung worship is supported by a band which includes guitars, keyboard, drums and singers, along with AV. Since 2020 we have been livestreaming our services.

There are light refreshments after both services, so regular members of the congregation and visitors can mix and chat.

Preaching is led by the Team Vicar and the Minister for Evangelism, with regular support from gifted members of the congregation and occasional visiting preachers. Expository Bible teaching is central to our Sunday services. Worship through music and prayer are also key elements, as we seek to be welcoming to those who are unfamiliar with church while enriching to all.

We encourage every-member ministry and our Sunday gatherings provide multiple opportunities for serving through Bible reading, prayer, welcome, children's ministry, music, AV, streaming, refreshments etc.



Prayer, Home Groups and Special Events

Prayer

Prayer is at the heart of Emmanuel's corporate life. Besides prayer in services and home groups, there is an annual week of prayer and our Emmanuel Evening prayer meeting on the first Tuesday of every month, with a meal beforehand. Many members of the congregation meet regularly in prayer triplets.

Home Groups

We greatly value our Home Groups which are intended to be Biblical communities of change and transformation. There are eight home groups, with more than one hundred members in total. Home groups meet on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday evening, except in school holiday times and the week of Emmanuel Evening. Home groups meet formally for Bible study and prayer and are an important pastoral support network.

Special Events

Special events in the life of the church include an annual awayday for the whole church, visiting speakers from Christian organisations, training and discipleship courses, and outreach events.



Children and Young People Ministries

We are blessed with a large number of families at Emmanuel and many willing leaders and helpers.

For 3-11 year olds there are Sunday School groups with dedicated volunteer teachers, and occasional special events led by volunteers. Our children's work is overseen by volunteers at Emmanuel and supported by a full-time Parish staff Children's Worker, based at St Mary's Church. Formerly it was overseen by a full time Families' and Women's Worker member of staff

Pathfinders, for 11-14 year olds, meets on Sunday mornings during our 10am service.

Dangerous Camping for years 3-6 and their Dads happens in May in partnership with St James Gerrards Cross. We love to equip and encourage Dads to grow in and share their love of Jesus with their kids!

An outreach Messy Church happens once a month on Saturday and an All Age Sunday Service once a month aiming to reach out to families with primary-age children who live within our district. Junior Jivers is a relational outreach on Tuesdays for mums and toddlers. We would like to host an annual Holiday Bible Club and Light Party.

'Ignite' is a parish-wide group for young people aged 14 and over. It meets on Tuesday evenings in term time and includes Bible study and prayer. Friday Night Youth is an informal parish-wide meeting for 11-18 year olds. It aims to be easily accessible to non-church youth. There are also annual weekends away and other special events including a mission trip to South Africa every 3 years. These deepen relationships among the young people. These events are backed by a dedicated team of volunteer youth leaders and one full-time Parish staff youth worker who is based at St Mary's Church. A large number of young people take part in Christian summer youth camps.



Adult Ministries

20's & 30's ministry is experiencing growth in numbers. There are regular meals together and occasional socials.

Our women's ministry includes two weekly daytime Bible studies, occasional Saturday breakfasts with either a church-focussed or outreach-focussed speaker, a 'Lydia' group for working women as well as evangelistic events such as craft evenings and shared meals.

Our men's ministry includes occasional Saturday breakfasts, an and mid week meetings for discipleship. 'Building Brothers' also includes outdoor activities and away days, and outreach events.

There is an active seniors' programme known as ACE (Afternoon Club at Emmanuel) which meets once a month and has occasional special events. We also run an evangelistic Bible study in local sheltered accommodation and conduct services in care homes within the district.

Each adult ministry is well supported by teams of volunteers, overseen by the church leadership.



We have an embryonic football team and a ministry seeking to support teachers and those employed in full time education.

We look forward to local nursery and primary schools visiting several times a year for special services.

Outreach and Mission

Mission Partners

Mission is central to the life of Emmanuel, and we are privileged to support individual mission partners and their families in Europe, the Middle East and Africa, as well as individuals working for SIM and OM's ship ministry. In addition, we partner with organisations seeking to share the love of Jesus in different contexts, including Fountain of Peace Children's Foundation (working with orphans in Uganda), Open Doors and Wycliffe Bible Translators.

We are committed to giving 20% of our general fund to support our mission partners.

Pictured below from left to right are some of our mission partners who are serving the Lord around the world: Claire Gingell, Jason and Sarah, some of the children from Fountain of Peace, Julie Knox, and Junior, Mirjam and Annika Faisbanchs.



Evangelism and Courses

We run evangelistic courses throughout the year, including Christianity Explored and Life Explored. Increasingly, we are developing our own course materials to be able to connect with a greater diversity of non-church people.

We have also run informal training courses for helping people share their faith with others and develop gospel conversations.

Schools

We have enjoyed a long history of engagement with local schools through regular assemblies, Bible clubs and support of Christian Unions.

Challenges and Opportunities

Through ministries like Christians Against Poverty and our efforts to reach local families, we are increasingly drawing people from a wide range of backgrounds, which is reflected in our gatherings. We have areas of significant deprivation alongside more affluent areas. We want to become better at communicating God's word in a way that encompasses our growing diversity and to see that reflected in our leadership, our preaching/teaching/discipleship and our outreach ministries.

We have seen most of our church family staying engaged through a church plant, interregnum and pandemic. We want to continue to re-engage those who have drifted in that time (particular our young people) and to refresh those existing members spiritually.

Following the church graft to reinvigorate Hope Church within a needy and strategic part of our district, we were able to combine our 9 and 11 am Sunday services. We need to think about how we accommodate the church family if we are to keep growing, recognising that space has started to become a limiting factor.

Emmanuel is committed to the whole body of Christ growign together both internally and externally. We are starting to pray towards what we can do to help with sister church Christchurch Waterside to replicate something o the Hope Church success.

There are some connections with the Pakistani Muslim community, which represents around 15-20% of the population in our area. However, we have had only limited effectiveness in getting alongside and building relationships with this significant minority.

We have had a long history of serving our local schools through regular assemblies and Bible clubs. Recently, those connections have warmed. We would like to think of ways, where possible, to strengthen those relationships again.

We are keen to find ways to support parents as they disciple their children. Additionally, we need to think creatively about helping young people stay engaged and grow in their faith.

We are also keen to reach an increasingly isolated and online generation of older teenagers and 20's. We are experiencing an increased warmth top the Gospel from this demographic. We would love to be able to connect better with them in street preaching, social media presence and music.

About the Parish

Emmanuel Church is part of the Parish of Great Chesham. A team ministry of seven churches, under the oversight of the Team Rector who is based at St Mary's.

Those seven churches work together with the common aim of reaching all people in Chesham and the surrounding villages with the good news of Jesus Christ. Each church has a distinctive flavour, but most are committed to Bible-based ministry and a common desire to see God's kingdom grow.

Overseeing the whole parish are the Team Rector, the two parish churchwardens and the PCC. The clergy and full-time staff meet twice weekly for prayer, Bible study, planning and to enjoy times of encouragement and sharing together. They enjoy a great theological unity.

Within the wider parish, people hold both complementarian and egalitarian views.

The staff team is evangelical* and works within a biblical framework regarding matters of human sexuality (as expressed in the attached PCC Resolution) whilst seeking to demonstrate deep pastoral sensitivity and to encourage the creation of communities of grace, in which all are welcomed, listened to and loved.

*<http://www.ceec.info/basis-of-faith.html>

The PCC meets six times a year as does each district. Each district is responsible for oversight of, and giving direction to, the church or churches within its district.

Parish staff members, based at St Mary's, include a full-time Youth Minister as well as a Parish Administrator. The Parish Administrator is the contact point for parish wide activities and makes arrangements for weddings, funerals and baptisms as well as assisting with administrative tasks for the churches where needed.

There is a Parish Safeguarding Officer who works alongside the safeguarding officers for each district.

Rev Simon Austen (formerly vicar of St Leonards Exeter) is employed part-time to lead the School of Ministry a parish wide initiative to train and equip people for ministry.



The Other Churches in our Parish

St Mary's, Chesham

Led by the Parish Rector, Rev Canon Edward Bowes-Smith, St Mary's is the historic parish church. St Mary's is a gospel-focussed, evangelical church and the Rector has oversight of all the churches in the parish. Sunday congregations meet at 9am and 11am and are looking to establish an afternoon/evening service. Roughly 300 will attend on Sunday.

St John's, Bellingdon

Affectionately known as the "Tin Tabernacle", St John's Bellingdon is a small, friendly, country church, led by Rev Tim Yates. There is a weekly service at 10am on a Sunday with an attendance of 15-20 people.

Hope, Chesham

Hope, Chesham is a relatively new evangelical church, known as "The Light on the Hill" and serving the community in the Hivings and Pond Park areas of Chesham. It is a graft from Emmanuel Church. The Sunday service is at 10.30am and the attendance is 60 people. Emmanuel Church and Hope enjoy a close relationship because many from Emmanuel moved to Hope when it was launched in 2019. Rev Edward Down was appointed minister in Sept 2025.

Christ Church, Waterside

Christ Church, Waterside has recently recruited Team Vicar Darren Dalton (to cover Christ Church, Waterside and St George's, Tylers Hill). The Christ Church vision is to "Share the love of God in Jesus Christ with the people of Waterside and to see them come to love and worship him". The services at Christ Church are based on the Church of England liturgy and the attendance is 50 people. The Sunday service is at 9.30am.

St George's, Tylers Hill

Together with Christ Church, St George's Tyler's Hill has recently recruited a Team Vicar. Known as the little 'Church by the Woods', St George's serves the communities of Tyler's Hill, Botley and Ley Hill, with the mission of 'sharing God in this community'. A relatively informal service takes place each week at 11.15am with an attendance of 41 people.

St John's, Ashley Green

St John's serves the small village of Ashley Green on the north east side of Chesham. The Church is currently in vacancy and has a weekly service on a Sunday. The services are central in style and the attendance is 15 people.