



Scripture Union

JOB PROFILE: Sports Mission Pioneer in partnership with Activate

Mission Area	Team
Mission Development	Mission Through Sport, within Regional Mission.
Position of job in Organisation	
The Sports Mission Pioneer will be line managed by the Sports Mission Team Leader within Regional Mission, with the Activate Chair having strategic oversight of the local delivery in West Molesey and the areas covered by the Activate project. The Sports Mission Team Leader will also sit on the board of trustees of Activate.	
About Scripture Union in England and Wales	
Scripture Union is a national mission-movement, the aims of which are to create opportunities for children and young people to explore the Bible, respond to Jesus and grow in faith. Our priority is to reach those who don't yet know Jesus. In all its work, Scripture Union aims to care for children and young people, share God's good news, and offer choices and opportunities, whilst being credible, relevant, and inspiring.	
Vision of SU in England and Wales	
Our vision is to see a new generation of children and young people have a vibrant, personal faith in Jesus.	
About Activate and their vision	
Activate is a sport and physical activity-based programme, seeking to build community through wellbeing that invigorates faith. Activate seeks to release God's people to join in his mission through sport and physical activity in the areas surrounding Bushy Park.	
Purpose of the team	
To fulfil the mission of Scripture Union within the region: to pioneer and create opportunities for children and young people, who are found in the 95% of those outside the church, to explore the Bible, respond to Jesus, grow in faith, and become sharers of the good news of Jesus for themselves. Our priority is to reach those who don't yet know Jesus by helping them to <i>connect, explore, respond, and grow</i> .	
The Mission Through Sport team aim to do this by equipping and supporting the local church to engage with the 95 through a wide range of physical activity-based programmes and resources aligned to the Revealing Jesus mission framework.	
Purpose of the job	
To develop quality and sustainable sports mission programmes in line with the Revealing Jesus mission framework. This will take place in two distinct contexts thanks to an exciting, unique partnership	
1) Two days per week, the Sports Mission Pioneer will be based with Activate, the Sport & Wellbeing project based from St Peter's West Molesey and covering the neighborhoods around Bushy Park, where they will gain practical experience of planning, delivering, facilitating and evaluating sports mission activities in their local context. 2) Three days per week, the post holder will be based with Scripture Union where they will take this practical experience and help other local churches in London and surrounding areas to develop sustainable Mission Through Sport initiatives.	
Both aspects involve some delivery of physical activity-based mission programmes including coaching and leading games and holiday clubs. The wider SU role will include supporting the training of faith guides and young leaders and may involve developing resources for bible-based sports and games sessions and programmes.	



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"Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the Gospel of Christ but our lives as well". 1 Thes 2:8"

Safeguarding

All Scripture Union staff take responsibility for protecting children and young people from all forms of abuse and for reporting any disclosures of abuse in addition to suspicions or concerns, in line with Scripture Union's safeguarding policies.

Dimensions and quantities

It is generally expected that over a 12-month period the Sports Mission Pioneer's time will broadly be spent as follows unless otherwise agreed with the Sports Mission Team Leader.

- Developing opportunities for the 95 to Connect, Explore, and Respond to the Good News of Jesus through sport, fitness and games.
- Pioneering sports-based expressions of worship (Grow Communities) for young people to go deeper in their faith.
- Training and coaching faith guides to run physically active Revealing Jesus activities and programmes including SU's current sports-based initiatives Holy Ground, Half Time and Heroes.
- Supporting the development of young sports leaders through training, placement opportunities and discipling.
- Gathering qualitative and quantitative data to demonstrate the journey of unchurched young people through sports mission opportunities and other positive social outcomes.
- Utilising opportunities in school holidays including the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme to support churches and Local Mission Partners (LMPs) to develop sports-based Revealing Jesus activities in low-income communities.
- Linking with mainstream local community sports organisations such as StreetGames to provide credible and valuable best-practice examples of sport-for-development programmes in low-income communities.
- Attending staff meetings, conferences and days of prayer as required and where relevant for role.
- Having a commitment to Personal Development, seeking to broaden and widen understanding, experience, and skills.

Key accountabilities:

The key accountabilities for this job are to:

- Lead and facilitate local sports mission activity within West Molesey and the surrounding communities in line with Activate's vision & mission.
- Develop a Greenhouse learning community in the Bushy Park area that will seek to gather, encourage and empower local Christians involved in sports ministry, including expressions of chaplaincy and missional communities centred around sports clubs, centres, educational settings and gyms.
- Pioneer new approaches/ideas in line with SU's strategy in West Molesey that have the potential to be replicated elsewhere and lead to a greater scale and depth of sports mission activity. Identify, recruit and support faith guides, volunteers, and LMPs to sustain these sports mission activities in & around London in conjunction with Scripture Union's South regional mission team.
- Provide relevant coaching, equipping, and resourcing for sports-based faith guides, volunteers and LMPs in the context in which they are deployed.
- Promote the ministry of Scripture Union through local strategic networking and advocacy.



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- Undertake other work and projects as required by the Sports Mission Team Leader.

In common with all members of staff, to:

- Further the aims and objectives of Scripture Union, working in accordance with its ethos.
- Be part of the prayer life and fellowship of Scripture Union, including staff prayers, days of prayer and worship and staff conferences, which combine prayer, worship, and strategy.

Undertake personal development through study and reflection, work reviews and in- service training.

Key performance indicators

The key performance indicators for this job are:

- Establish sustainable Connect and Explore sports mission activities in West Molesey and Activate operating area within the first 12 months, with Respond moments developed appropriately within/following this period.
- A growing number of sport/physical activity-based programmes in London communities led by faith guides engaged in Scripture Union's mission framework of delivering the connect, explore, respond, and grow model of ministry.
- The development of Sports-based expressions of worship (Grow Communities) supporting those children and young people who have responded positively to Jesus, including in West Molesey during year 2.
- Contributing towards seeking funding and support to sustain the ministry beyond the initial 2 years including the development of innovative partnerships in the Bushy Park area
- Active engagement in helping shape, define and deliver both national and Mission Development priorities within a sports context.

Educational and / or training qualifications and certificates

The person appointed will have:

- A Level 2 certificate in coaching, either in a specific sport or multi-skills, or equivalent experience.
- We will also consider those committed to gaining an appropriate Level 2 upon appointment.

Person specification

The person appointed will:

- Be a deliverer of sports and physical activity in local communities.
- Have solid judgment of sports ministry and/or sports ministry impact.
- Have insight into the impact of sport on children and young people, be a passionate advocate, an excellent practitioner, and a capable communicator.
- Influence networks, shape opinion, challenge inertia and inspire creativity.
- Be self-disciplined, able to organise and prioritise their own workload, and manage multiple projects.
- Be able to visualise and work towards long-term goals.
- Be open to and comfortable with different traditions, styles and expression of spirituality, prayer, and worship.
- In common with all members of staff, the person appointed will be a committed Christian in sympathy with the aims and ethos of Scripture Union who has an active involvement in the mission of a local church. Have a total commitment to God and is a Christian disciple.



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- Seek to have a sound biblical understanding that is applied in daily living and encouraged in the lives of others.

Necessary technical / functional skills

The person appointed will be:

- Competent in the use of email, social media, MS Office 365 tools such as Word, Excel, and Teams.

Required behavioural competencies

Flexibility	Willing to adapt thinking and behaviour to suit the requirements of different situations, demonstrating a flexibility of approach for the mood of the Movement. Able to see the value of an alternative view in different situations.
Relationship	Works to identify, build and maintain positive long-term relationships, building trust and rapport with colleagues and contacts.
Developing others	Creates an open and supportive environment where people take responsibility and are actively encouraged. Listens, supports, and identifies learning opportunities for others. Coaches others one-to-one mentoring, and gives clear, honest, and constructive feedback.
Results focus	Sets challenging yet realistic goals and objectives, focusing energy into striving to achieve them within agreed timescales.

Adverse Working Conditions

This role brings with it the need to travel, often using sports equipment & resources, so the ability to drive and use a car is preferred. There is also a need to work unsociable hours. Occasional time will be spent away from the usual place of work to participate in residential meetings.