
YOUNG VINCENTIANS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

Role Description

The St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) in England and Wales runs apostolic programmes for young people in primary schools, secondary schools, colleges and universities, as well as parishes. These apostolates are set-up/developed by our team of development officers. Our Young Vincentians Development Officers (YVDO) are an essential and highly valued part of the SVP family, ensuring the vitality of the SVP in younger generations, and the wider Church for years to come.

Resources, training, networking, and ongoing support is provided for all YVDOs, via staff at the national office, and local SVP leaders in the area.

All YVDOs are subject to a current enhanced disclosure, with a check against the children's barred list.

Role Activities

- This role is flexible, so you may wish to give a few hours a week, or a few days a week. On average, YVDOs spend around 8 hours a week on the role. The local SVP Central Council will reimburse you for your travel costs and other expenses incurred relating to the role.
- Presenting the Young Vincentians programmes to Parish Priests, Chaplains, Catechetical Coordinators, youth leaders, school Headteachers, classroom teachers, RE coordinators within their diocese (or Central Council) or an agreed part thereof.
- Giving short presentations to school classes, year group assemblies, RE classes, parish youth groups, confirmation groups, and chaplaincy groups about the appropriate programme for them.
- Acting in a leadership capacity on Youth days/events where possible and appropriate.
- Attending the quarterly Central Council (Diocesan) SVP meeting to report on your activities.
- Offering ongoing support and checking in on the group at least once a year if not more often.
- Record keeping with SVP National Office, and communicating with local Diocesan Youth Office.

Person Specification

- You should be sympathetic to the aims and work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, the Catholic Church, and Catholic schools and parishes in England and Wales.
- A background in Catholic school education (primary or secondary school teacher, teaching assistant, SENCO, other educational background) is highly desirable, but not essential. Similarly, familiarity with the workings and life of Catholic parishes is highly desirable.
- You should be happy presenting to adults and children.
- You should be willing to attend the annual SVP national meeting to share your activities with SVP members.
- YVDOs do not have to be current members of the SVP, but will be expected to become familiar with the ethos and workings of the SVP as part of their role.

The Young Vincentians Team Players

Young Vincentians (YV) = Our umbrella name for all 4 youth and young adult apostolates of the St. Vincent de Paul Society in England and Wales. Our primary school apostolate is called “Mini Vinnies”, and our apostolates for those of secondary school age are called “Youth SVP” and “SVP B-Attitude”. “1833” is our apostolate for university and parish-based groups of young adults.

Young Vincentians Development Officer (YVDO) = Develops any one or more of the apostolates mentioned below. YVDOs are based regionally and develop on behalf of their Central Councils. They are broken down into:

- **Mini Vinnies Development Officer (MVDO)** = Develops the Mini Vinnies groups.
- **Youth Development Officer (YDO)** = Develops either Youth SVP, SVP B-Attitude or both groups.
- **1833 Development Officer (1833DO)** = Develops 1833 groups.

National Young Vincentians Coordinator (NYVC) = Full time, based at National Office.

Young Vincentians Admin Assist. = Part time, based at National Office

Vincentian Coordinator (VC) = The person in the school or parish, who supervises a Young Vincentians group, and is the main link between the school and the YVD and/or the National Office.

National Office (NO) = National Office of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Youth Committee = The committee is formed of a team of people who can best represent the different apostolates of the Young Vincentians family to the SVP Board of Trustees and to the public. It can be a vocal platform to the voice of the young people within the SVP, and hence contribute to improve their contribution to the Society. The Youth Committee makes key decisions for the benefit, wellbeing and advancement of the Young Vincentians, deciding which direction the apostolates ought to take, and where all stakeholders ought to focus their energies. It is headed up by the **Youth Committee Chair**, who sits on the Board of Trustees.

Young Vincentians Spiritual Advisor = Offers counsel where necessary to any of the above mentioned.

Chief Executive Officer of the SVP = Champions the cause of the Youth Committee at Board level

*Please don't get wrapped up in this terminology.
We're pretty much nicknamed 'YDO's' across the organisation.*

YOUNG VINCENTIANS MISSION STATEMENT

In the spirit of our founder Frederic Ozanam, the SVP in England and Wales seeks to actively engage young people in the work of the Society, serving those in need in their local communities and developing their own faith and spirituality in the process.

For an application form, please contact the Young Vincentians team at youngvincentians@svp.org.uk or 0207 703 3030.