



**Thrive** is an intensive eleven month discipleship programme. Thrive is for those who want to take risks for God, and want to be involved in the building of His Kingdom. Thrive is all about growth in character and skills: growth through training, growth through mission and growth through ministry.

This booklet will give you lots of information about Thrive; what you can expect and what we expect of you. If you think God is calling you to take a step of faith and apply for Thrive then come and talk to Becca or Dan Sweet.

## **What is Thrive?**

The New Testament uses a lot of words to describe who we are as Christian. We are believers, 'members of Christ's body', Saints, we are 'in Christ', a Royal Priesthood, temples of the Holy Spirit, children of God. We are disciples. We have been united with Christ, baptised into his death, raised with Christ, filled with the Spirit, we have new hearts, with minds that are being renewed, and will one day inherit all things, as a citizen in the eternal kingdom of God!

Therefore, now, there is no shortage of ways we are to work out our salvation with fear and trembling in order to accept and believe who God is, who we are in Christ, and how we are to live lives fully pleasing to God as a result.

That's what Thrive will be all about. A year of working out your salvation from wherever your starting point is. A disciple is a learner and discipleship is the process through which all of the truths of who we are in Christ come to be understood, enjoyed and outworked in our daily lives as we praise God for who He is and live for Him.

To do so, we will focus on four areas:

### **1. Training**

You will join with other interns from other churches to receive external training, receiving clear, strong foundations in biblical theology.

The teaching is spread over the year - you will:

Learn from experienced and gifted teachers and leaders – people with practical experience as well as theological insight.

Cover subjects such as, The Doctrine of God, The Old Testament, Church History, Scripture, Evangelism, Spiritual Gifts, Mission, Leadership, Stewardship, Salvation, Genesis 1-3, Eschatology, Personal Development, Pastoral Care, Ethics, Trinity, Prayer, Worship, The Kingdom, Church Planting.

Have 'away days' and interactive sessions with apostles, evangelists and church leaders.

Ask lots of questions and learn from both teachers and fellow students. Grow in your knowledge of God and His love and plans for you!

We would hope for you to also spend a few hours each week **studying**, following a study plan we would put together for you. This would include reading options, as well as listening and visual platforms of learning.

We will also seek to have regular **team time**, where you can process what you are learning, be trained by Holland Road staff, explore calling, minister to one another as a team, grow in dwelling in the Spirit, explore spiritual disciplines, and learn how to lead bible studies, talks and devotions.

### **2. Mission**

You will be part of an overseas cross cultural trip during the year, alongside regular opportunities in Brighton both through the Church and partner organisations.

### **3. Ministry**

Each Thrive Intern will **major in a specific ministry area** over the eleven months. You'll spend at least 15 hours of your week on this so you can really develop skills and experience in a certain area, and be guided by the ministry lead of that area as you do. Please state your preference on the application form, and a conversation will follow in your interview should you be offered one.

Your major specialism will be determined before you start the internship should you be successful.

Minor specialisms include any of the 'majors' and Events, Communications, Prayer & Prophecy, Preaching & Leadership. You will in your first month have exposure to different areas of church ministry and following that decide another ministry area (or 2) that you will pursue in conversation with Becca and Dan. We will ask you in your interview what you might be interested in but the minors will be determined once you have started the internship, and can also be edited during the eleven months.

The following areas are available (with any major track also available as a minor).

#### **Major Specialisms:**

**Children's (0-11):** This would involve helping children learn faith and who God is in fun, interactive and exciting ways! This could include being involved in Tadpoles, Sunday morning Discoverers, Working with schools, The Hub, Holiday Club, and ministry to Parents.

**Youth (11-18)\*** This would involve working with youth to help them know the gospel, hear the voice of God, develop a faith of their own and love others. You could take part in HRY, older youth, mentoring, youth alpha, summer camps, and Sunday morning youth.

**Students\*** This would involve helping students think about and mature in their faith whilst at uni, perhaps even meeting Jesus for the first time, as they learn how to live out their faith. You could be greeting freshers as they arrive to the city, helping students connect to Church, supporting the CUs at both Brighton and Sussex universities in mission, mentoring students and meeting with them 121, and helping students as they approach graduation.

**Missions –** In the City, in our Nation, in the World. This could involve helping at Alpha, taking part in street evangelism, University missions, helping to organise 'Prayer times for the world', communicating with overseas mission partners, serving at our international cafe "united", growing in understanding God's provision, amidst exploring opportunities for further overseas mission in the future.

**Worship\*** - Grow in your ability to both lead others in worship and develop your gifting within the band. Develop opportunities for others to be trained, and take a

large role in serving at Encounter. Develop gifts in leading others in prayer, and in creative ways of worshipping.

**Restore** - Serving those in need in our city whilst learning more about God's heart for the vulnerable. You could be involved in the Night shelter, in CAP ministry, in the homeless cafe run on site, in working with Seniors and the Tuesday afternoon service, and learning how to pastorally care for people. Placements with local community organisations, such as: Off the Fence, Alternatives, Brighton & Hove City Mission and the Basics Bank are possible.

**\*All these would also include working with Encounter.**

Whilst the majority of your experience will be centered around your major and minor(s) specialisms, alongside study and training, there will also **frequently** be **activities outside these** that you will be asked to support with as part of the staff team serving the whole church.

#### **4. Supervision**

You will have regular supervision with Dan or Becca, alongside regular mentoring and help from the ministry lead of your major specialism.

At the end of Thrive, you will be given guidance and help as you think through, "What's next?"

#### **You will be:**

Kept accountable.

Challenged.

Expected to achieve agreed goals.

Supported and mentored.

Provided with board and lodging.

#### **Criteria**

If you want to apply for Thrive you need to be at least 18 years old, prepared to take a step of faith and ready to work hard. Start talking to us sooner rather than later.

#### **Accommodation**

We will work with you to get you accommodated. It will either be within our church house or in the home of a church member.

#### **Funds**

The cost of Thrive is £1,350. This is for the costs that are involved in putting on a ministry like this. You will be responsible for raising this and your personal expenses. We will work with you to help you look for ways of finding funds for this and we will inform the church that this one way they can get involved. There is no requirement for you to have all of the money you need before you start Thrive, but obviously the more the better. We also ask you to raise financial support for part of your training.

This is done once the year has begun and it is a team effort. It is stretching but very rewarding. We coach you through this process.

### **Prayer**

We would like you to find at least 10 people who will support you in prayer. Not all of these will be from within Holland Road. It may be that these people will be able to help you financially as well.

### **Dates**

The key dates of Thrive for successful applicants will be:

Starting: **Monday 7th September 2020** (current situation allowing)

Finishing (and moving out): **Friday 23rd July 2021**.

### **Mentoring**

If you're not already in a mentoring relationship you need to be in one. You'll be given a mentor for the duration of Thrive.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **Will I have to pay for the international trip?**

No. The cost is included in your fee. If you wanted to go on other trips then you would need to self-finance.

#### **Can I still do a part time job?**

Being part of Thrive means committing to immerse yourself for a period of time into the daily life of the church, greater involvement in missions and to undertake training. Experience shows us that trying to split time between Thrive and another employer just doesn't work so we ask people to commit their time to Thrive for its duration.

#### **What if it does not work out?**

We will do all we can to keep in close relationship with you throughout your time on Thrive and to make it work. We will do what we can to make your time a success, but expect to be in open dialogue if things don't seem to be working out.

#### **What will I be doing?**

Thrive involves four main elements: Training, Mission, Ministry and Supervision. We recognise that all those applying have different gifting, skills and experiences and so we work with you to build a programme that best reflects this. We will look for the best places for you to serve. There will be regular reviews of the use of your time, with the expectation that you fill out a report every month to reflect on how Thrive is going. You will be exposed to a variety of areas of church ministry at some level, and will find that your time is structured and busy. Towards the start you will find that your time is more structured and as things go on there is more freedom. Prayer and worship will be a key part of the experience for everyone. You will be challenged and deepened in your walk with God. Keeping a journal, staying accountable and retreat times will be part of this.

**Is there time off?**

**Yes!** 30 days off taken in school holidays (includes bank holidays).

**What next?**

You need to fill out your application form. We'd strongly encourage you to talk to us during this process. Your application will be reviewed and then you will be interviewed. We'll get back to you within a reasonable time and if things have gone well your application goes to the leadership of the church. If all goes well, we'll offer you a place. We will do our very best to make Thrive as effective as possible for you. We will need a high level of trust and communication from you at all times. There will be times when you are struggling as well as times when you are doing very well. It is an amazing adventure! We are really looking forward to all that God will do in us and through you during this time. Please continue to pray this through very carefully. To receive an application form please request this on [hrbc.org.uk/thrive](http://hrbc.org.uk/thrive)

To ask any questions you can talk to Becca: call 01273 732 111 or email [beccas@hrbc.org.uk](mailto:beccas@hrbc.org.uk).

**We are praying for you as you consider this opportunity.**