



ESTABLISHING A YOUTH OVERSIGHT TEAM

DEFINITION

A team of people who work alongside the key youth leader, offering support, ideas and feedback.

WHY A YOUTH OVERSIGHT TEAM?

1. It's not God's intention that we lead alone. Different people have different gifts, abilities and insights and when we collectively rely on these, leadership of the youth ministry is enhanced.
2. A Youth Oversight team creates continuity. When the time comes for the key leader to move on, this team becomes instrumental in ensuring the ministry continues to build on what has gone before and assists the new leader as they commence leadership.
3. A Youth Oversight is invaluable when it comes to dealing with any concerns or criticisms that people express. They protect the key youth leader from having to deal with these directly and can either support them when criticism is unjustified, or gently relay criticism when it's valid.

THE ROLE OF THE YOUTH OVERSIGHT TEAM

1. **Support for the Key Youth Leader:** This involves acting as sounding board for their ideas, suggestions and questions, as well as offering pastoral support to them, enquiring after their wellbeing, and praying for them.
2. **Decision Making:** They regularly evaluate what is occurring and discuss ways to overcome concerns or improve the effectiveness of the ministry. They will agree to goals and strategies and monitor progress. They will also approve new leaders.
3. **Pastoral Care:** The Youth Oversight Team carry the ultimate responsibility for pastoral care. This means that on occasions they will discuss with the key youth leader how best to respond to difficult pastoral care situations they are faced with.
4. **Prayer:** During their meetings they will devote time to pray for the youth ministry, the leaders and the young people.

PROFILE OF A YOUTH OVERSIGHT TEAM MEMBER

Youth Oversight Team members need to be spiritually mature and have a love for young people. They should be team players who are prepared to speak their mind yet who understand the need to support the key youth leader and stand alongside them. For that reason, the key youth leader should have a say in the makeup of this team, with members being people they respect and will listen to.

CONTACT

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