



# **Christian Outdoor Education Traineeship**

**PROSPECTUS**

## INTRODUCTION

Would you love to share God's Word with thousands of young people each year? Would you love to be part of a close team of dynamic and passionate evangelists? Would you love to be paid while receiving high quality outdoor education training?

Then you'll love Youthworks Christian Outdoor Education's traineeship!

Each year you'll share your life and the gospel with thousands of young people as you minister with Youthworks. Our programs combine adventure education with authentic biblical teaching, so the life-changing experiences we offer students are shaped by a genuine Christian example and world view.

You'll grow in your ministry experience and evangelism skills as you learn how to facilitate outdoor adventures like rock climbing, canoeing, bushwalking, and more. You'll learn how to use the outdoors as your platform for ministry as you train with others for a lifetime of ministry.

## OUR PROGRAM

### About our traineeship

Trainees undertake an 18-month program designed to develop Christian character, conviction and competence in Christian ministry under the leadership of experienced Christian outdoor educators. Trainees will complete the nationally-recognised Certificate III in Outdoor Leadership, providing the necessary outdoor skills for this special ministry.

The traineeship is split into two parts. In the first 9 months you'll focus on training and assessment at Youthworks' Port Hacking site. During this time, you will also be observed in the running of activities and small group session on our Youthworks Christian Outdoor Education (COE) school programs. You'll then undertake a placement in one of COE's satellite teams developing location-specific outdoor ministry skills. After completion of your traineeship, you will be considered for a permanent position with Youthworks COE.

### The unique opportunity of Christian Outdoor Education

Christian Outdoor Education is one of the most strategic opportunities to orient young people for life in Christ. Each year, Youthworks COE ministers to around 16,000 young people. Our educators lead students in age-appropriate Bible teaching that is embedded into adventurous experiences in God's creation. We take every opportunity to bring the Bible to bear upon our experiences, so students can better understand their God, his creation, themselves, and others.

While our camps can be large, ministry is done in small groups. You will lead between 10-15 students for a short but intense time leading Christian Discovery sessions and adventurous activities, being a living witness to the love of Christ, and providing an opportunity for students to ask questions and discuss their views.

## OUR TEAM - KEY PERSONNEL

### HEAD OF CHRISTIAN OUTDOOR EDUCATION

#### Sam Hudson

Certificate IV Outdoor Recreation, Diploma of Theology

Sam has dedicated the past 20 years to the ministry of Youthworks. The idea of teaching the Bible while holding a rudder was powerful enough to steer him away from church-based ministry and towards ministry in the outdoors. Sam's first role at Youthworks was as a kitchen hand. He then progressed to becoming a Trainee Guide, Guide, Team Leader, Operations Manager and is now the Head of COE. Sam enjoys using the outdoors to let God show himself through his creation.

Equipped with a Diploma of Theology from Youthworks College, a Certificate IV in Outdoor Recreation, and a couple of seasons' experience in water sports on the Greek Islands, Sam is enthusiastic about seeing more young people adventure in God's playground under the guidance of Youthworks COE.

## TRAINING MANAGER

### Phill Vitiello

Certificate IV Training and Assessment, Certificate IV Outdoor Recreation, Certificate IV Work Health and Safety

Phill first joined Youthworks in 2008 as a Trainee Guide, completing his Certificate III in Outdoor Recreation. After leaving for a short period, Phill returned to Youthworks in 2012 as a Lead Guide before moving into the training team where he spent four years as COE's Training Coordinator. Phill has been Training Manager since 2016.

Phill is passionate about training quality Christian Outdoor Educators so t they are best equipped to minister to the thousands of students they will influence during their guiding careers. Phill enjoys spending time outdoors with his wife Suzie and son Cooper, hiking, mountain biking, paddle boarding and camping.

## OUR BELIEFS

Youthworks COE is a ministry of Anglican Youthworks, the youth and children's ministry arm of the Anglican Church Diocese of Sydney. We uphold the evangelical heritage of the Anglican Church as expressed in the historical documents of The Reformation (the Book of Common Prayer and the Thirty-Nine Articles of Religion) and as practiced in the Diocese of Sydney.

Youthworks believes and holds to the truth of the Christian faith as set forth in the Nicene Creed, as well as the Apostles' Creed as set out below:

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth;  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he shall come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Youthworks in particular believes:

- God's written Word, the canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the supreme authority in all matters of faith and conduct.
- There is only one way to be reconciled to God which is through his Son, Jesus Christ, who died for our sins and was raised for our justification.
- We are justified before God by faith only.

## **CERTIFICATE III IN OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP**

Youthworks, as a Registered Training Organisation, trains the nationally recognised qualification, Certificate III in Outdoor Leadership. Candidates undertaking a traineeship with Youthworks COE will be trained in the following Core and Skill Units.

### **CORE UNITS**

HLTWHS001	Participate in workplace health and safety
PUAOPE013	Operate communications systems and equipment
SISOFLD002	Minimise environmental impact
SISOPLN001	Finalise operation of outdoor recreation activities
SISOPLN004	Identify hazards, assess and control risks for outdoor recreation activities
SISOPLN005	Interpret weather and environmental conditions for outdoor recreation activities
SISXCCS001	Provide quality service
SISXEMR001	Respond to emergency situations
SISXFAC001	Maintain equipment for activities

### **SKILL UNITS**

#### Abseiling, Artificial and Natural Surfaces

SISOABS002	Abseil single pitches, artificial surfaces
SISOABS003	Abseil single pitches, natural surfaces
SISOABS005	Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling on artificial surfaces
SISOABS006	Establish ropes for single pitch abseiling on natural surfaces
SISOABS008	Lead single pitch abseiling activities on artificial surfaces
SISOABS009	Lead single pitch abseiling activities on natural surfaces
SISOFLD006	Navigate in tracked environments
SISORSC002	Perform vertical rescues

#### Bushwalking, Difficult Tracked Environments

SISOBWG002	Bushwalk in difficult tracked environments
SISOBWG006	Lead bushwalks in difficult tracked environments
SISOFLD007	Navigate in difficult tracked environments
SISOFLD003	Select, set up and operate a temporary or overnight site

#### Climbing, Artificial Surfaces

SISOCLM001	Top rope climb single pitches, artificial surfaces
SISOCLM005	Establish belays for single pitch climbing on artificial surfaces
SISOCLM008	Lead single pitch climbing activities on artificial surfaces, top rope climbing

#### Canoeing, Inland Flat Water & Moving Water

SISOCNE002	Paddle a canoe on inland flatwater
SISOCNE003	Paddle a canoe on moving water up to grade 1 rivers
SISOCNE005	Lead canoeing activities on inland flatwater
SISOCNE006	Lead canoeing activities on moving water up to grade 1 rivers
SISOFLD006	Navigate in tracked environments
SISOFLD003	Select, set up and operate a temporary or overnight site

#### Archery

SISOARC001	Lead archery sessions
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#### First Aid & Water Rescue

SISSS00126	Wilderness First Aid:
HLTAID003	Provide First Aid
SISOFLD004	Provide first aid in remote locations
SISXEMR002	Coordinate emergency responses

Royal Life Saving Society - Bronze Medallion

### Challenge Course, High and Low Elements

- SISOABL001 Lead adventure-based learning activities
- SISOHC001 Lead challenge course sessions, low elements
- SISOHC003 Lead challenge course sessions, high elements

### Facilitation

- SISXCAI006 Facilitate groups

### **The following Skill Units may be trained based on organisational needs:**

#### Cycle Touring, Off Road Easy Trails

- SISOCYT001 Set up, maintain and repair bicycles
- SISOCYT004 Ride off road bicycles on easy trails
- SISOCYT008 Lead off road cycling activities on easy trails
- SISOFLD006 Navigate in tracked environments

#### Sailing Small Boats

- SISOSAI001 Sail small boats in smooth water and light to moderate wind conditions
- SISOSAI002 Sail small boats in partially smooth water and moderate to fresh wind conditions
- SISOSAI004 Lead sailing activities in smooth water and light to moderate wind conditions
- SISOSAI005 Lead sailing activities boats in partially smooth water and moderate to fresh wind conditions

#### Safe Food Handling

- SITXFSA001 Use hygienic practices for food safety

## PHYSICAL CONSIDERATIONS

The Youthworks COE Traineeship involves the following physical requirements during training and employment. Please consider these requirements carefully before proceeding with your application.

Activity	Frequency		Number of hours in a day									
	Continuous	Intermittent	<1	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8+
Walking		✓						✓				
Hiking		✓			✓							
Standing		✓							✓			
Bending		✓		✓								
Squatting		✓	✓									
Climbing		✓					✓					
Kneeling		✓	✓									
Twisting		✓			✓							
Lifting		✓				✓						
Reaching above shoulder		✓			✓							
Overnight expeditions		✓										✓
Exposure to heights (up to 30m)		✓					✓					
Swimming up to 400m		✓			✓							
Reading/study/assessments		✓					✓					
Drama		✓	✓									

### Additional Physical Requirements:

- Team members are required to carry a daypack throughout a day.
- On overnight expeditions, Educators are required to carry packs up to 30% of their body weight.
- A harness is required to be worn for several activities. This will often require hanging from a rope in it. During training there is often extended periods of hanging in harnesses.
- The training period involves intense physical requirements and can be a challenging escalation in strength and fitness to what an applicant is used to. An increase in base level strength and fitness is recommended prior to commencement of employment.

## APPLICATIONS

If you are a Christian who loves Jesus, the outdoors and working with young people in a team context then complete the application form and send it in! You will need to send 100 points of identification, plus get your minister to fill out the reference for you. Full details are in the application.

Offers of employment are made on the basis that the applicant may be required to undertake a pre-placement health check by a Youthworks appointed Medical Practitioner.

### Admission

By applying to do a traineeship with Youthworks COE, you are asking to be accepted as suitable for ministry with youth and children. Applicants will need to provide a paid NSW Working with Children check clearance number for verification prior to an offer of employment. Police checks may be conducted on workers employed in ministry with children or young people at Youthworks.

The minimum age for applicants is 18 years. In order to effectively manage risk in our programs, we need trainee educators to be older than the students involved in the programs. In addition to this there is a significant amount of time (including overnights) spent away from home and from a duty of care and Work Health and Safety perspective, Youthworks is unable to provide suitable supervision for employees under 18 years.

### Government assistance

During your Certificate III training, you will be employed by Youthworks and you will be registered with the Government as registered as an apprentice. This means, you may be eligible for the Living Away from Home Allowance, which is offered to those staff who have moved to their worksite. Your contracting Apprenticeship Centre will advise you on applying for this allowance or your eligibility to receive other payments such as Youth Allowance.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Do you need to be an Australian Citizen to apply?** You need to be an Australian Citizen or have permission to work in the country before applying. We are unable to sponsor visa applications.
- **How much travel is involved?** Training will be based at Youthworks' Port Hacking site. However, travel will be required for some training events e.g. bushwalks and canoe trips. During the training block you may be required to get yourself to training locations. For most of the locations we use, public transport is not an option.
- **How much should I expect to be away overnight?** During the initial training block, you would expect to be away roughly 15-20 nights. Once you are placed on a team, some programs will require overnight work, roughly two a term.
- **Will I be required to work weekends?** The need to train or work weekends is not common but may be required when necessary.
- **Is accommodation provided?** During your training block, basic dormitory style accommodation can be provided midweek, if needed. Once placement is offered on site accommodation can be requested. On site accommodation is limited and dependent on availability. Rent applies for this accommodation.
- **Do most people stay longer than the duration of the traineeship?** Currently our retention rate is over 5 years. This means trainees that are successful in securing a permanent Outdoor Ministry Leader position are serving for at least an additional 3 years if not longer.
- **When should I expect to hear back about my application?** You will receive an email within a week of submitting your application to confirm that it has been received. Invitations to our selection weekend will be sent 6 weeks before the scheduled date.
- **Is there any theological training involved in the traineeship?** During the traineeship you will do

basic in-house ministry training to assist in facilitating small groups and presenting Christian presentations.

- **What will my hours be?** Your standard hours will be Monday 8:30am – 5pm, Tuesday-Thursday 8am – 5pm, and Friday 8am - 3:30pm.
- **Do I get paid?** Yes, this is a paid traineeship.
- **Do you recognise prior learning?** We can recognise certain qualifications and training. To enquire about your specific qualifications being recognised please contact [humanresources@youthworks.net](mailto:humanresources@youthworks.net) with the details.
- **What is the average age range for the traineeship?** We have had trainees aged between 18 and 56 years of age. There is no age limit for doing the traineeship. We have a minimum age of 18 years for the traineeship as mentioned above.