



THE INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH & MISSION

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WELCOME FROM PRINCIPAL & CEO JAMES ARCHER

The Institute for Children, Youth & Mission – CYM – is an independent specialist college that equips people for Christian ministry and mission with children, young people, and the community.

CYM has over twenty years of experience in serving the church and we continue to be actively engaged in work that keeps us at the forefront of training, education, and research in our field.

Our programmes are research informed and we provide theological insight, spiritual community, and practical skills that enable our students to make a difference.

I am delighted that you are considering joining us so we can support you as you develop and hone your practice and ministry.

ABOUT CYM

We're proud to have a long legacy of training thousands of people in Children's and Youth Ministry in the UK and beyond. We continue this work by welcoming new students and providing them with the best training from top experts in their field, enhancing their capacity, credibility, and creativity.

Home to outstanding academics with decades of experience, our vision is to pass on the baton to the next generation to do transformational work in the lives of children and young people from every background. As the family of God, we're stronger together, so we partner with churches, charities, organisations, and communities.

CYM educates students to exceptional standards and practically equips, professionally qualifies, and continually supports them as they serve these partner organisations in different contexts.

CYM students gain invaluable experience, which often shapes their vision for future ministry.

When you enrol on a CYM course, you automatically become a beloved member of our worldwide extended family, where you will always have the support and community you need for a lifelong meaningful, and successful career in children's and youth ministry.





Here at CYM, we embrace and learn from one another's differences as we love and serve God together.

WHO ARE OUR COURSES FOR?

Our courses are for anyone passionate about their faith who wants to serve children and young people.

We have students of all ages and backgrounds, and this diversity is what makes the CYM family so incredible. Jesus prayed that his disciples would be one as He and the Father are one (John 17:21). No matter student's stories, church background, or style of worship; here at CYM, we embrace and learn from one another's differences as we love and serve God together.

Your spiritual development is a top priority at CYM. We welcome students who are ready to grow and go deeper in their relationship with God.

OUR OFFER

At CYM, we offer:

- Integrated Foundation BA (Hons) in Practical Theology (With Specialist Pathways)
- BA (Hons) in Practical Theology (With Specialist Pathways)
- MA in Mission and Ministry (With Specialist Pathways)
- A variety of Training and Development Courses



Having worked in an unrelated industry the structure of the part-time CYM MA was perfect in terms of allowing me to re-train whilst still working and now I'm ready to go for it in the world of youth work.





INTEGRATED FOUNDATION BA (HONS) IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

(WITH SPECIALIST PATHWAYS)

Full-Time: 4 years

In person at our Nottingham Campus

**CYM offers an integrated foundation*
BA (Hons) in Practical Theology degree
with four specialist pathways:**

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Community Youth Work

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Children and Family Ministry

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Chaplaincy with Children and
Young People

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Community Ministry



HOW WILL YOU STUDY YOUR BA?

The CYM BA (Hons) in Practical Theology with Foundation Year allows you to develop your ministry and work with children, young people, families and communities in a practical context. You will grow in confidence, faith, and practical skills as part of a worshipping community throughout your studies.

The addition of a foundation year to our BA (Hons) in Practical Theology opens doors to those who do not yet meet the entry qualifications for the three year BA (Hons) degree, or who would like additional time to return to study after a long break.

The course offers strong foundations in principles of academic study in theology and the wider social sciences.

WHAT WILL YOU STUDY?

There are three themes that you will study across the year in six modules:

1. Foundations in practical theology;
2. Education and society; and
3. Being human in a digital world.

Each of these gives you a grounding in working with people in the context of Christian mission and ministry.

The student is at the heart of the learning experience as you will be supported in your learning from day one through to completion of the degree. In addition to lectures, seminars and tutor groups, you will receive one to one support from CYM tutors to help you grow and achieve your potential.

*Subject to approval



BA (HONS) IN PRACTICAL THEOLOGY

(WITH SPECIALIST PATHWAYS)

Full-Time: 3 years

In person at our Nottingham Campus

CYM offers a BA (Hons) in Practical Theology degree with four specialist pathways:

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Community Youth Work

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Children and Family Ministry

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Chaplaincy with Children and Young People

BA (Hons) in Practical Theology
Community Ministry

HOW WILL YOU STUDY YOUR BA?

During Year One of your BA, you'll get a broader picture of the landscape of your chosen area of ministry before focussing on your particular skills and calling in years two and three by choosing one of our Specialist Pathways.

The BA course encourages you to develop your faith by studying theology and being part of an active worshipping community.

You'll also develop your ministry by applying your knowledge while working with people in different communities and reflecting on your skills and approach in your practice.

EMBEDDED LEARNING IN PRACTICE

You'll gain invaluable experience during your BA at your practice agency. From youth centres to schools or churches, what you'll learn during your time at one of our fantastic partner projects could change you for life- and possibly the trajectory of your whole career.

Rebecca grew in ways she never could have imagined during her time at two very different practice agencies:



My primary practice experience was as the trainee Youth Pastor at a Baptist church. I supported discipleship groups and did lots of creative online work. My second placement was completely different as I worked with the local council's detached youth team. I helped run groups for excluded young people with the local YMCA.

During my final placement, my worldview got turned upside down by spending two weeks in Uganda working with children in the community and local primary schools. I'll never forget the fantastic children and young people I met at my placements, and my experience reaffirmed my desire to give my life to Children's and Youth Ministry.



MA IN MISSION & MINISTRY

(WITH SPECIALIST PATHWAYS)
Part-Time: Typically 3 years
Fully Online



CYM's Postgraduate MA can help experienced workers, or those seeking a change in career.

You will gain a qualification while growing in expertise and understanding in your ministry by studying flexibly around your job.

We developed our MA in Mission and Ministry by consulting with CYM graduates, partner organisations, and practice specialists.

Our programme is fully online which means that students join us from all over the globe, enriching our discussions and providing an enhanced learning experience.

We aim to equip you with the skills to thrive in your career while making a difference in the lives of children and young people in various settings.

CYM's MA in Mission and Ministry is ideal for those seeking qualification and accreditation while they are already working, or for those taking first steps into ministry. Students specialise in their qualifications by choosing from one of the following pathways:

MA in Mission and Ministry

Chaplaincy with Children and Young People

MA in Mission and Ministry

Children and Family Work

MA in Mission and Ministry

Christian Leadership in Context

MA in Mission and Ministry

Youth and Community Work JNC

HOW WILL YOU STUDY YOUR MA?

The MA course consists of structured teaching blocks, independent study, reflection, and ongoing module tutor support. Typically, the teaching blocks are a four-day campus based block of teaching, interspersed by tutorials and online study days - and, of course, the continual support of your CYM classmates and tutors.

When you start your course in October, you'll study the core module, and then the pathways modules will start Springtime onwards (although this can vary). How you complete your independent study is down to you - you might set aside a day per week for study or fit it around your existing work schedule or family commitments.

Your practice context for your MA might be your existing place of employment or with one of our partnering organisations. You will gain invaluable skills and experience and you'll use reflective writing practices to process and evaluate your work.

EMBEDDED LEARNING IN PRACTICE

During your MA experience, you will put what you learn in the classroom into practice while learning more about yourself and those you're serving, all while building on your expertise.

Liz's practice was at Birmingham Women's and Children's Hospital:



During my placement, I could apply and embed the concepts from the classroom to my encounters with patients and families.

The course enabled me to be more intentional in my practice. I observed theological principles at work as I assessed the spiritual needs of sick children and families and provided appropriate care.



CYM TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT COURSES

We are passionate about supporting all those that are engaged in ministry and mission to children and young people.

We recognise the importance of those serving children and young people engaging in a cycle of training and renewal in areas of practice and ministry.

These are often precious times of encouragement, encounter and envisioning to go again.

CYM's Training & Development courses and opportunities are created to do just this. CYM's Training & Development courses are created in conjunction with leading practitioners and agencies, and they take place alongside your work or studies.

We want to equip you wherever you're serving so you can make the most significant impact.



LIVE-LEARNING (CAMPUS-BASED OR ONLINE)



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CYM offers training and development courses designed to complement your work or studies, providing an opportunity to enhance your current ministry or acquire the skills and knowledge to initiate new endeavours.

Our aim is to empower you in your service, ensuring that you can make a profound impact in the lives of children and young people, in conjunction with your current roles and responsibilities.

Visit **cym.ac.uk/live** for more information on our current live-learning training and development opportunities.

SELF-PACED ONLINE LEARNING (ONLINE)



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Bringing more than two decades of dedicated service to the church, CYM stands as a leader in training, education, and research within our field.

Our online learning platform maintains the same exceptional quality that has become synonymous with CYM, ensuring you receive the highest quality education and resources.

Learn at a time that suits you.

Our courses are designed to be ready when you are with certified and non-certified options.



A TRAUMA SENSITIVE APPROACH TO CHILDREN'S, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRY

Introducing CYM's Trauma Sensitive self-paced course, an invaluable resource tailored for individuals dedicated to serving in Christian children and youth ministry contexts.

Exploring what is meant by the term 'trauma', we unpack some core principles of what it means to bring a trauma sensitive approach to the way we work with children, young people, and families. You'll dig into some practical tools, strategies and approaches to help ensure you're creating spaces that are led safely and, very importantly, that feel safe for every child that we are journeying with. You'll also consider how you can effectively support families in churches and communities with care-experienced children.

With self-paced flexibility, CYM's trauma-sensitive approach to children's, youth and family ministry course empowers ministry leaders to navigate the complexities of trauma, fostering a ministry environment that reflects Christ's love and understanding for every child and young-person.

FOUNDATIONS IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

You will explore where the bible has come from and how you got the copy you read today. You will learn the grand story of scripture and some of the key moments which are essential to your understanding of God and yourself. You will also be equipped with some tools to help you read the bible in a healthy and transformation way.

FOUNDATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL CHAPLAINCY

The course introduces a working theology for chaplaincy and applies that theology to the specific context of education. Theoretical models of educational chaplaincy are explained and examined. The context of chaplaincy in education is explored through a range of topics including spiritual development and ethos, teaching, and worship, working in a multi faith context, evangelism and discipleship and addressing ethical dilemmas.

Visit **cym.ac.uk/online** for more information on our current self-paced training and development opportunities.





INVESTING IN YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

CYM isn't just a specialist college; we are a community of faith that values every member as a unique, loved, and treasured gift. We want to see you spiritually grow and flourish while you learn with us.

Anticipate an acceleration in your journey of discipleship with Jesus as you gain insight through theological study and engage in prayer and worship during your time at college.

“
By studying theology at
CYM, I've connected with God
in new ways and gained a deep
hunger for the Word.”



HOW WILL YOU SPIRITUALLY GROW AT CYM?

- By engaging with theological thought, you'll grow in your understanding of God
- You'll have space to reflect on and develop your ministry
- You'll be a valued member of a community where everyone is celebrated and accepted
- You'll be encouraged by your college mates in your walk with God, the study of the Word, and prayer life
- You'll have regular staff tutorials
- You can meet with CYM Chaplains for pastoral support and insight
- You'll regularly gather with your CYM community for worship and prayer



WHAT DO CYM GRADUATES DO?

CYM students tell us that they grow and transform in every aspect during their time with us. They understand themselves and others better and develop a closer personal walk with God. Whatever way their vocational path leads, our students graduate with a deeper sense of direction.

CYM Graduates go on to serve in a variety of ministries in, or beyond the church. From planting new churches to working with young offenders, serving as Rugby Team chaplains to providing support for foster families, there's no limit to where our students can end up making a difference to the lives of children and young people.

STUDENT FINANCE

Birmingham Newman University validates CYM accredited Courses, so you can apply for a Student Loan to cover the fees and other related costs of BA and MA courses. You can contact Student Finance to discuss your eligibility, and students from outside the UK can check what finances are available from their regional authority.

For more information about fees, please visit our specific course information pages at **cym.ac.uk**.

SIGN UP

Apply to CYM directly online:
cym.ac.uk/applynow



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After you've applied, you'll be called to an interview, either in person or online, where we'll discuss your intended specialism and practice options.

We can't wait to meet you!



If you've got more questions you can contact us at:

Email: hello@cym.ac.uk
Telephone: 0115 7770102

Even better, take a look at our virtual open days and get in touch with us.
www.cym.ac.uk/virtual-open-days

Facebook: @cymnews
Twitter @cymnews
Instagram: @cym_news



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