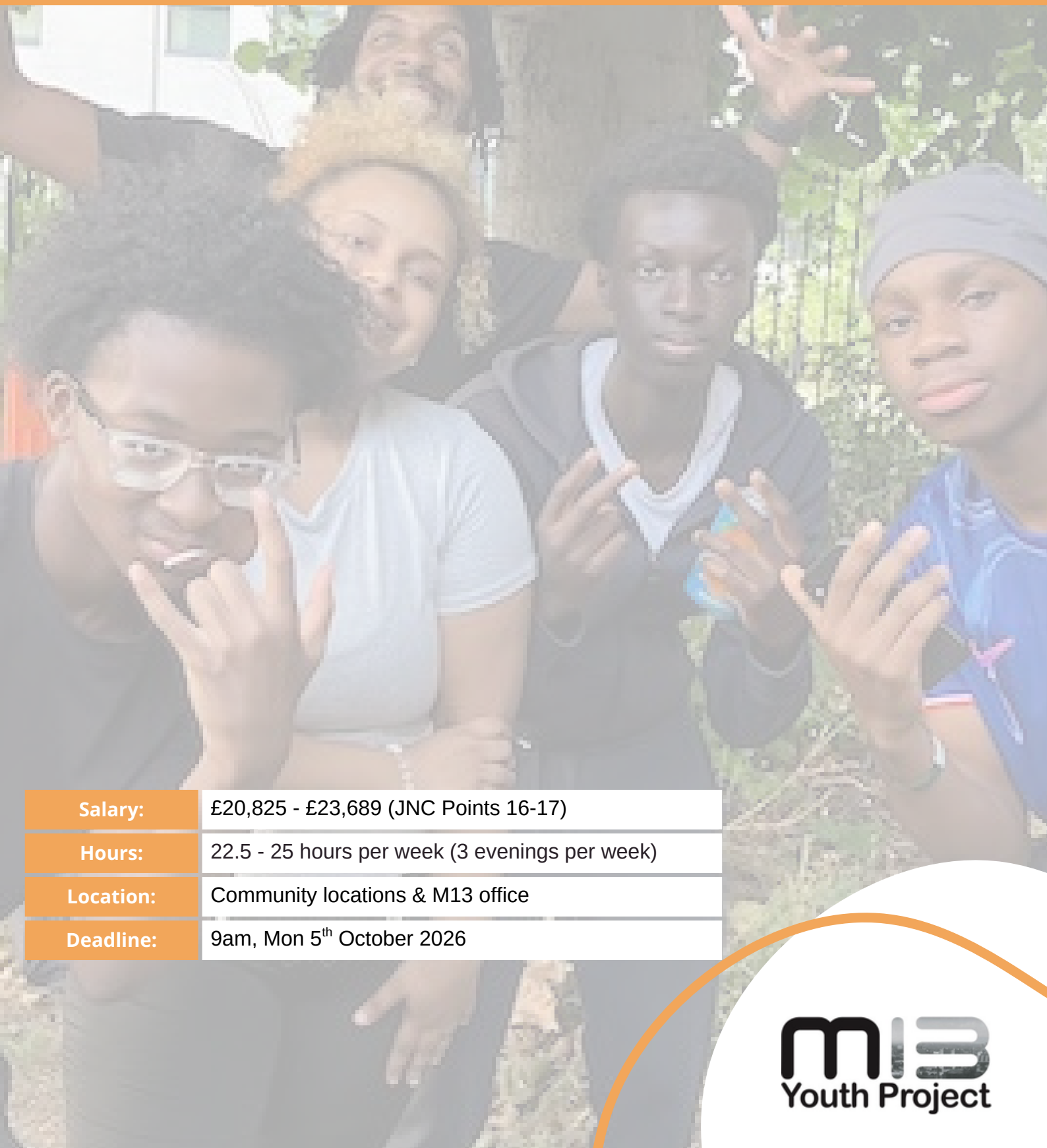


YEF Detached Youth Work Area Lead

Recruitment Pack

m13
Youth Project



Salary:	£20,825 - £23,689 (JNC Points 16-17)
Hours:	22.5 - 25 hours per week (3 evenings per week)
Location:	Community locations & M13 office
Deadline:	9am, Mon 5 th October 2026

m13
Youth Project

Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in joining M13 Youth Project.

This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to M13's delivery of the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) Detached Youth Work Pilot. As YEF Detached Youth Work Area Lead, you will combine outstanding detached youth work practice with leadership of detached youth work across two-three neighbourhood patches, helping to shape the future of detached youth work nationally.

You will spend much of your week building trusted relationships with young people in parks, streets and neighbourhoods, while developing strong relationships with local residents, community organisations and partner agencies across the project's neighbourhoods. Alongside this, you will lead detached youth work delivery across your neighbourhood patches, model outstanding practice, support and encourage less experienced detached youth workers, contribute to monitoring and evaluation, and help ensure high-quality implementation of the YEF Shared Practice Model.

If you are passionate about detached youth work as described in the [Common Protocols for Detached Youth Work in Manchester](#), committed to social justice and excited by the opportunity to make a lasting difference to young people's lives, we'd love to hear from you.



About M13 Youth Project

M13 Youth Project exists because relationships matter.

Every young person deserves trusted adults who believe in them, walk alongside them and help them discover who they are, what they have to offer and the difference they can make. Yet, in the communities where M13 works, too many young people are growing up amidst deep-rooted inequality. For many, trusting and supportive relationships with adults can be difficult to find, and opportunities to thrive are limited.

Our response is simple and radical: we go to where young people are.

For more than 30 years, M13 has worked alongside young people through detached youth work, meeting them on the streets, in parks and in the places where they choose to spend their time. We believe trust is built on young people's terms, not ours. Through conversation, curiosity, fun, informal education and collective action, we nurture belonging, belief and hope, creating opportunities for young people to flourish and shape their own futures.

Our purpose is to be a consistent, trusted presence in communities experiencing deep-rooted inequality. Through relational detached youth work and purposeful informal education, we support young people to develop their voice, discover their strengths and work together to create lasting change in their communities.

Our values shape everything we do

We walk alongside – building trusted relationships rooted in respect, consistency and care.

We care actively – creating welcoming, non-judgemental spaces where young people belong.

We nurture hope – believing in every young person's potential and holding hope through adversity.

We give our best – striving for excellent youth work through professionalism, reflection and continuous learning.

We speak up with courage – standing alongside young people and communities to challenge injustice and create lasting change.

At M13, we believe the relationship *is* the work. Everything else grows from there.

The YEF Detached Youth Work Pilot

M13 is proud to be leading the Greater Manchester consortium delivering the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) Detached Youth Work Pilot, working alongside local authorities, Greater Manchester Police, community organisations and the Centre for Evidence and Implementation (CEI).

The pilot is one of four regional programmes across England and aims to build the strongest evidence to date about detached youth work. Whilst detached youth work has a long history of supporting young people and communities, there is currently limited quantitative evidence of its impact. The pilot will test a Shared Practice Model and the feasibility of evaluating detached youth work through a randomised controlled trial, laying the foundations for future national research.

Detached youth work is a community-based approach that enables qualified youth workers to engage with young people in the public spaces where they choose to spend their time. It is voluntary, relational and strengths-based, with trust built through consistent presence, authenticity and informal education rather than programmes delivered within buildings. The Shared Practice Model places particular emphasis on working with peer groups, understanding local communities, building trust over time and responding flexibly to young people's needs and priorities.

This is an opportunity to be part of a nationally significant project that combines excellent youth work practice with robust evaluation, helping to strengthen the evidence for an approach that youth workers have long known can transform young people's lives.

Who We're Looking For

We're looking for a qualified youth worker, experienced in detached youth work as described in the [Common Protocols for Detached Youth Work in Manchester](#), who shares our belief that relationships change lives.

You'll enjoy being outdoors, in communities, meeting young people where they are and building trust through consistency, conversation and genuine care. You'll be equally comfortable modelling excellent detached youth work practice and supporting colleagues to develop through encouragement, reflection and shared learning.



You'll be organised, proactive and dependable, with the confidence to take ownership of detached youth work across your neighbourhood patches, make sound professional judgements and respond confidently to the opportunities and challenges that arise through detached youth work. You'll understand the importance of accurate monitoring, evaluation and recording, contributing high-quality information that supports both local learning and the wider national evaluation of the YEF Detached Youth Work Pilot.

You'll also be confident building positive relationships with local residents, community organisations, partner agencies and professionals, working collaboratively to strengthen local networks, support young people and help ensure high-quality implementation of the YEF Shared Practice Model across your neighbourhood patches.

Above all, you'll share M13's values. You'll believe in every young person's potential, lead with integrity, humility and hope, and understand that the relationship is the work. You'll be excited by the opportunity to combine outstanding frontline detached youth work with leadership of practice across your neighbourhoods, helping transform young people's lives locally while contributing to a national evaluation of detached youth work that will benefit young people and communities for years to come.

Job Description

Job Title: YEF Detached Youth Work Area Lead

Responsible to: YEF Detached Youth Work Project Lead

Responsible for: Neighbourhood Detached Youth Work

Hours: 22.5 - 25 hours per week (full-time equivalent 37.5 hours)

The role includes delivery of six outdoors detached youth work sessions each week (three afternoon sessions, 4.00–6.00pm, and three evening sessions, 7.00–9.00pm), alongside responsibility for planning and leading detached youth work across two/three neighbourhood patches, contributing to monitoring and evaluation, and developing positive relationships with local communities and partner organisations. This is an office- and community-based role. When not delivering detached youth work or attending meetings in local neighbourhoods, the Area Lead will normally be based at the M13 office, working alongside colleagues to contribute to collaborative planning, reflective practice and high-quality project delivery.

Job Salary

JNC Scale Points 16–17: £34,708–£35,533 full-time (37.5hrs)

Pro rata (22.5 - 25 hours): £20,825 - £23,689

Contract: Fixed term contract to 31 March 2028.



Job Purpose

Reporting to the YEF Project Lead, the postholder will lead M13's detached youth work delivery across two/three neighbourhood patches within the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) Detached Youth Work Pilot.

The Founding Director retains overall strategic responsibility for the project and leadership of the Greater Manchester consortium. The YEF Detached Youth Work Project Lead is responsible for the day-to-day operational leadership of the pilot. Working as part of this wider team, the Area Lead will ensure high-quality detached youth work across their neighbourhood patches, contribute to robust monitoring, evaluation and reporting and deliver practice that is faithful to the YEF Shared Practice Model and wider research requirements.

Alongside leading detached youth work within their neighbourhood patches, the Area Lead will model outstanding relational youth work practice, deliver regular detached youth work sessions, support the development of less experienced colleagues through day-to-day practice, and build strong relationships with young people, local residents, community organisations and partner agencies to strengthen opportunities for young people and contribute to the success of the wider project.

Key Responsibilities

1. Deliver high-quality detached youth work in outdoor settings in accordance with M13's Purpose, Mission and Values and the YEF Shared Practice Model, building trusted relationships with young people and responding to their needs through relational practice and purposeful informal education.
2. Lead detached youth work delivery across two/three neighbourhood patches, ensuring safe, consistent and high-quality practice that is responsive to the needs of young people and local communities.
3. Model outstanding detached youth work practice, supporting and encouraging less experienced colleagues through day-to-day practice, reflection and shared learning.
4. Deliver detached youth work in accordance with the requirements of the YEF Detached Youth Work Pilot, ensuring practice is accurately recorded and contributes to the integrity of the wider research and evaluation.
5. Collect, maintain and submit accurate, timely and complete monitoring, evaluation and reporting information required by YEF, CEI and consortium partners.
6. Develop and maintain effective relationships with young people, local residents, community organisations, statutory agencies and local partners to strengthen opportunities for young people and support successful project delivery.
7. Work collaboratively with the YEF Detached Youth Work Project Lead and colleagues across M13 and the Greater Manchester consortium, contributing to shared learning, Communities of Practice and continuous improvement.
8. Identify safeguarding concerns, risks and practice issues, taking appropriate action in accordance with M13 policies and escalating concerns promptly where necessary.
9. Contribute to continuous learning and quality improvement by participating in reflective practice, sharing learning with colleagues and applying learning to improve detached youth work practice.
10. Maintain accurate records and ensure compliance with M13 policies and procedures, including safeguarding, health and safety, equality, diversity and inclusion, GDPR and organisational requirements.
11. Participate fully in supervision, appraisal, training and continuing professional development, modelling M13's Purpose, Mission and Values in all aspects of the role.
12. Undertake any other duties commensurate with the responsibilities of the post.

Person Specification

Please explain in your application how you meet the following criteria.

Criteria	Essential / Desirable
1 Recognised Youth Work qualification at Level 2 (NVQ or equivalent).	E
2 JNC Professional Youth Work Qualification (Level 6 or above) or ability to think critically, exercise professional judgement and work at Level 6.	D
3 Current First Aid qualification and safeguarding training.	D
4 Two years' experience of delivering high-quality detached youth work outdoors in public spaces, building trusted relationships with young people through relational practice and supporting learning through informal education.	E
5 Experience of leading detached youth work within a neighbourhood patch, taking responsibility for the quality, consistency and safety of delivery across that area.	E
6 Experience of planning, monitoring, evaluating and reporting on detached youth work, maintaining accurate records and demonstrating impact.	E
7 Experience of building effective relationships with young people, local communities, partner organisations and statutory agencies.	E
8 Experience supporting, encouraging or mentoring colleagues, volunteers or students through modelling excellent detached youth work practice.	E
9 Sound knowledge of detached youth work and informal education principles, safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion, and the issues affecting young people experiencing racism, inequality and disadvantage.	E
10 Ability to lead by example, work independently, exercise sound professional judgement, make informed decisions and respond confidently to opportunities and challenges arising through detached youth work.	E
11 Strong organisational, communication and digital skills, including confidence using monitoring systems and maintaining accurate records.	E
12 Understanding of, or willingness to learn, evidence-informed practice, the YEF Shared Practice Model and research requirements, including the importance of consistent delivery and accurate monitoring.	D
13 Experience of working within externally funded programmes, multi-agency partnerships or research and evaluation projects.	D
14 Commitment to reflective practice, continuous learning and contributing positively to the development of colleagues through encouragement, reflection and shared learning.	E
15 Shares M13's Purpose, Mission, Vision and Values, demonstrating integrity, professionalism, resilience, compassion and a commitment to helping young people flourish.	E

What We Offer

Working at M13 is an opportunity to make a lasting difference in the lives of young people whilst developing your own practice within a supportive, reflective and values-led organisation. We are committed to investing in our staff, creating an environment where people are trusted, supported and encouraged to develop.

As part of our team, you'll benefit from:

- **22.5 - 25 hour working week** (full-time equivalent 37.5 hrs), including six detached youth work sessions each week. This is a community and office-based role, with some flexibility offered in when office work is undertaken where operationally possible.
- **Annual leave:** Four weeks' annual leave plus public bank holidays (pro rata), together with three additional paid 'gift days' over the Christmas closure.
- **Pension:** A 6% employer pension contribution following completion of your probationary period. Your minimum employee contribution is just 1.6%.
- **Flexible Time Off in Lieu (TOIL)** for out-of-hours working, or overtime payments where appropriate.
- **Regular supervision and reflective practice** to support your wellbeing, learning and professional development.
- **Ongoing training and development**, including opportunities to develop your detached youth work practice, leadership potential and wider professional skills.
- **The opportunity to play an important role in the Youth Endowment Fund's Detached Youth Work Pilot**, contributing to one of the UK's most significant evaluations of detached youth work.
- **A supportive, experienced and values-led team** committed to learning together and delivering outstanding youth work.
- **The opportunity to help shape the future** development of M13 whilst contributing to learning that will benefit young people and communities locally and nationally.

Safeguarding Statement

M13 is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and we expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an Enhanced DBS check, satisfactory references and M13's safer recruitment procedures.

Race Equity, Diversity & Inclusion (REDI)

At M13, we believe every young person deserves to feel safe, seen, heard, respected and valued. We are committed to building a diverse, inclusive organisation where equity informs how we recruit, lead, learn and work alongside young people and communities.

We recognise that excellent detached youth work requires cultural humility, curiosity and a commitment to understanding young people's lived experiences. As part of the Youth Endowment Fund (YEF) Detached Youth Work Pilot, we are committed to embedding the principles of Race Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (REDI) throughout our practice, workforce and decision-making.

We actively encourage applications from people who are under-represented within the youth work sector, including people from Global Majority communities and people with lived experience of the challenges facing the young people we work alongside. We are committed to equitable recruitment and will make reasonable adjustments throughout the recruitment process and in employment.

How to Apply

- **Application Deadline:** 9am, Monday 5th October 2026
- **Interview Date:** Friday 16th October 2026
- **Who to contact:** Helen Gatenby 07973 976925 or Chineze Oluwasina 07351 730584 to ask any questions and to arrange to visit the organisation in advance of making an application.
- **How to apply** - please use this [link](#) to apply through Charity Jobs.

This platform enables us to use a 'blind recruitment' process to help ensure fair and equitable recruitment. On the platform, please submit your CV together with answers to the five questions below. Please limit each response to **200 words**. We encourage you to draw on specific examples from your own practice, explaining not only what you did, but why you made particular decisions and what you learned.

Applications will be shortlisted against the Person Specification only, so please demonstrate how you meet each of the criteria through your experience and achievements. We welcome examples from paid employment, voluntary work and other relevant experience, and recognise that skills and experience may be transferable from different settings.

We recognise that applicants may choose to use AI to support the writing of their application. However, we are interested in hearing your experiences, thinking and reflections. Your application should accurately represent your own knowledge, skills and experience.



Application Questions:

1. Describe your experience of delivering detached youth work with young people in streets, parks and other public spaces. How did you initiate contact and build trusted relationships with young people you didn't already know? What have you learned?
2. Describe your experience leading a piece of (detached) youth work. How did you: plan & develop work; identify where & when to engage young people; ensure work was safe, consistent and responsive to young people's needs; overcome challenges?
3. Describe how you record, monitor and evaluate your youth work. How do you ensure your recording is accurate and meaningful, and how has it helped improve your practice or demonstrate the difference your work has made?
4. Tell us about a situation where you worked alongside young people, community members and other professionals to achieve a positive outcome. How did you balance relationships, safeguarding and the differing needs of individuals and groups?
5. M13 believes that relationships are the work. What does this mean to you, and what interests you about the opportunity to deliver and lead excellent detached youth work within neighbourhoods while contributing to research and evaluation?

We are also recruiting for detached youth workers to work on this project. Please check out our website www.m13youthproject.org.uk for more information.