

2025/26



'I came so that they can have real and eternal life, more and better life than they ever dreamed of.' John 10:10

# No-one who chooses to follow Jesus ever misses out

The vision of Exodus is to see generations of young people boldly following Jesus and becoming lifelong disciple makers.

Exodus teams have served young people and communities around the world for over 25 years and this booklet outlines all you need to know about setting out to lead, host or run a team.

Thank you for sharing the adventure of making disciples who make disciples.



# The Team Journey

An Exodus team is a 6 month journey beginning with regular small group meetings, a residential along the way and finishing with a ministry placement.

#### 1. Team Meetings

Groups prepare by meeting weekly from February – June.

They complete 16 small group sessions focusing on fun, discipleship, team building and ministry preparation. Team meetings follow one of our four courses and usually last around 2 hours. My team experience has had a massive impact on my life and walk with Jesus. I've seen Jesus work in and through our team and made new and genuine friendships that will last a long time!

Exchange team member to Moldova



#### 2. Ministry Placements

Teams serve alongside a local or international host for a 10–14 day summer ministry placement.

Most placements begin with a 48 hour residential 'launch' full of fun, ministry preparation and Bible engagement alongside other Exodus teams.

Groups then move to their host to serve most often in kids & youth ministry, community outreach, church services and practical work.

# Roles

#### YOUR TEAM

#### **TEAM LEADER**

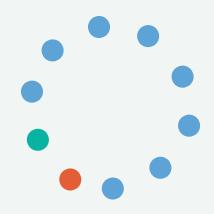
Disciples group members and is responsible for the team.

- A committed follower of Christ (21+ by 30th June on the year of travel)
- Passionate about young people developing their relationship with God.
- Sets an example and can subscribe to the Expectations & Ethos for Leaders.

#### **GROUP MEMBERS**

Participates in team meetings & ministry placement.

- 3-10 individuals aged 15-25.
- · At a similar spiritual stage.



#### **CO-WORKER**

Supports the leader in discipling the group.

- A committed follower of Christ (19+).
- Able to work as part of a team and compliment the leader's gifts and energy.

#### **SUPPORT**

#### **TEAM MANAGER**

An Exodus point person who supports leaders with information, advice and accountability.

#### **HOST**

A trusted partner and ministry leader who cares for the team and sets up their daily placement programme.

#### **OPERATIONS TEAM**

The Exodus office who will process applications and manage finance, insurance, admin and logistics.

# Church & Partner Teams

In the past 10 years Exodus have worked alongside 100+ churches, schools and youth centres to help them deliver a team experience in their local setting. If you want to set up a team, follow this process alongside a local Exodus staff member:

#### **PLAN**

- Build a **Team Scenario** (course, meeting nights, destination, dates).
- Confirm details through a partner agreement and £500 deposit.

#### **RECRUIT**

- Recruit a suitable team leader & co-worker(s).
- Invite young people to complete an initial **expression of interest** (before you confirm partner agreement & deposit).
- Ensure team members apply.

#### **SUPPORT**

- Offer the team prayer, encouragement, fundraising opportunities.
- Ensure the team meets its financial commitments to Exodus and covers any shortfall in the agreed total.
- Provide public liability insurance for all preparation activities before
  the team travels (Exodus provide all insurance while the team is away).



"Exodus Teams have been a springboard for young people to grow in faith, serve in ministry back home and feel more connected to their local church." Johnny Bell, Director of Youth & Family Ministry at Saintfield Road Presbyterian.

## **Team Courses**

Each team follows one of four courses during their team meetings. Leaders are provided with a manual and journals for every team member.



Year 11+

We want to see young people find a community that builds trust, engages in discussion and explores life's biggest questions.

#### Year 11+

We want to see young believers make the exchange from 'my way to His way' and discover the fullness of life that is found in dying to self and following Jesus.





#### Year 13+ (or Y12 if prev Ex-change Team)

We want to see young believers transformed 'from the inside out' and experience the distinctive life that flows from the heart and out through our lives when we choose to follow Jesus.

#### **Year 14+**

We want to see committed followers shift from 'my walk to our walk' and respond obediently and intentionally to the call to make disciples.



# **Team Meetings**

Each of the courses are made up of a range of key building blocks which work together to form each small group session.



#### **Body Builders**

Fun games, activities or conversation starters to help people relax and to build community.



#### **Video & Discussion**

Short talks & response activities which present key ideas and encourage engagement & growth.



#### **Prayer Focus**

Creative activities to encourage individual and group prayer.



#### **Rhythms Journal**

Group members (inc leaders) complete weekly devotional sessions to help them pause, read Scripture, reflect and respond.



#### Residential

The team spends 1 or 2 nights away, allowing time to build relationships, develop fun and go deeper together.

# Placement Destinations

#### **SPAIN**

Partnering with churches to facilitate outreach to all age groups. PC £625 FR £375 )

#### **HUNGARY & SLOVAKIA**

Partnering with a local church to run kids clubs and outreach, PC £645 FR £375

#### **FRANCE**

Local outreach, kids club and church services. PC £625 FR £375

#### **MOLDOVA**

Supporting church planting & outreach with local believers. PC £675 FR £395



Serving local communities through sport, youth work and evangelism. PC £1495 FR £475

#### N.I & ROI

Partnering with local churches and ministries to engage kids, young people and communities. PC £165 FR £150

#### **ROMANIA**

Practical ministry, delivering food parcels, kids clubs and church services. PC £695 FR £375

#### Scotland

Engaging with kids, young people and communities with a local church. PC £295 FR £225

Costs are from 2025 and may increase slightly

PC = Personal Contribution. FR = Fundraising.

See more on p11

# **Exodus Support**

#### 1. PREP & TEAM MEETINGS

- A Team web page with key details, application form and links.
- Two training events & two local coaching gatherings for leaders and co-workers.
- Resources for team meetings & placement preparation.
- A Team Manager who'll provide pastoral support and advice.
- Online financial systems for payments & fundraising.
- Public Liability Insurance for residentials, team meetings and fundraisers (excludes partner teams).
- Communication with host to plan placement and ministry opportunities.
- Processing of all applications, medical forms and police checks, booking transport & accommodation and provision of team finance tracking.
- Annual Commissioning Service.

#### 2. PLACEMENT

- Day-plan and preparation guide.
- Kid's club and youth ministry materials.
- 24/7 on call support.
- Full travel insurance, public liability and tour liability for the duration of the placement.
- ATOL Protection for every team involving a flight.

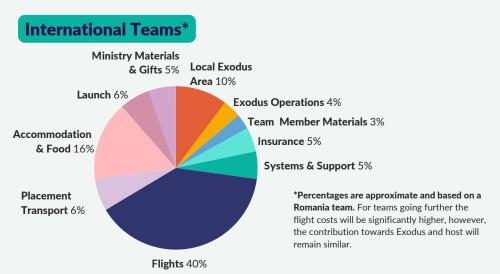
#### 3. FOLLOWING PLACEMENT

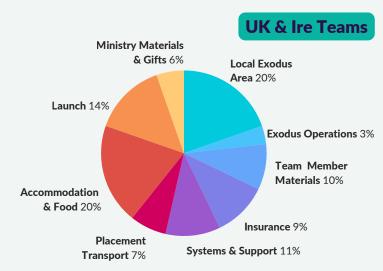
- A leader, co-worker and host review.
- · A celebration event.
- An invitation towards further discipling opportunities through a local Exodus centre.



## **Finance**

The total cost of each team covers preparation, training and materials as well as transport, food and accommodation, insurance, support and project costs. It also includes a contribution towards the Exodus staff costs of running the teams.





# **Finance**

#### **PERSONAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

#### The amount each team member must pay to secure their place.

- Team members & leaders will receive an invoice for their personal contributions for online payment.
  - A 40% deposit should be paid by the end of February with the final balance to be paid by the end of April.
- Leaders and Co-workers receive a 25% discount on their personal contribution if they have paid the deposit on time.
- There is a bursary available (up to one third off the personal contribution cost of a team travelling within Europe) to assist team members who cannot afford the Personal Contribution.
- Non-travellers can join at a cost of £25 to cover resources.

#### **FUNDRAISING**

#### The fundraising target is what is left to cover the cost of the team.

- Leaders and team members take part in personal and group activities to reach their goal.
  - It is approximately £150pp (Irish Teams), £370pp (European teams),
     £470pp (Long Haul teams).
- Donations can be made **online** and by **cash or cheque** (payable to 'Exodus') and **given to the team leader.**
- Team leaders are required to receive, record and lodge money and should be committed to good stewardship of finances and resources.

#### **PARTNER TEAMS**

- The £500 deposit is used to secure your team place and enable Exodus to make early flight bookings.
- It can be assigned towards the team fundraising target or to reduce the personal contributions.
- Leader discounts can be agreed in advance.



# Expectations & Ethos for Leaders

Exodus exists to see generations of young people boldly following Jesus and becoming lifelong disciples makers.

As a member of the Evangelical Alliance we subscribe to their basis of faith. Our mission is to help young people discover life in Jesus, follow His teaching & example and live holy and transformative lives in the midst of contemporary culture.

In light of Scripture and Exodus' mission, vision and history we affirm that:

- 1. Every Young Person is made in the image of God and we strive to offer each one the highest standards of love, care and compassion.
- 2. Jesus is Good News for Young People and He has commissioned His followers to make disciples. Therefore we seek to create opportunities to let others taste and see that God is good, invite them to choose to follow Jesus, continue to grow in faith and in turn pass that faith on.
- 3. Disciples are invited to grow in maturity and so we seek to love God, follow Jesus and respond to the Holy Spirit through regular prayer, Bible engagement and participating in a local church.
- 4. God created humanity male and female. Our bodies matter to Him, are essential to our nature, intrinsic to our identity and impact others. Therefore, we strive in private, in public and online, to live holy lives that honour him and reflect His character and to avoid behaviour that would negatively impact those we disciple.
- 5. Sexual activity is a good gift from God that belongs exclusively within marriage between one man and one woman. God calls us to faithfulness within marriage and celibate singleness outside of it. Therefore we are committed to helping young people navigate sex and sexuality well, recognising the destructive impact of pornography.
- 6.Alcohol, tobacco and narcotics pose a threat to the wellbeing and development of young people. Therefore we affirm a responsible approach to alcohol through abstinence or a commitment to consuming alcohol in moderation and with selfcontrol always mindful of our influence, particularly on young people. We also refrain from using tobacco, vaping products or narcotic substances.
- 7. God made the earth and entrusted humanity as its stewards and so we take seriously our responsibility to care for and cultivate His good creation.

# Plan Your Team

Use this page to help you imagine what your Exodus team could look like, consider who'll be involved and spot where the gaps are.

Small Group Course:
Team Leader Name:
Co-worker Name(s):
Meeting Location:
Meeting Night:

# **Your Next Steps**

Follow this guide to get your team ready to recruit!

#### **ALL LEADERS & CO-WORKERS**

- Agree your team plan (p13) with the local staff member (and your church/school if its a partner team).
- 2. Apply to be a leader/co-worker online.
- Apply for Access NI if you haven't completed it for Exodus in the last 2 years.
- 4. Record the **Key Dates** (p15) in you calendar.
- 5. Attend Local Leader Connect Night.
  - a. Vision for the year
  - b. Meeting other leaders
  - c.15 min interview for first time leaders
    - & co-workers
  - d. Photo for your team webpage



GUIDE FOR

#### **CHURCH & PARTNER TEAMS**

- Agree your team plan (p13) with the local staff member
- Check the level of interest from young people & parents
- 3. We'll send you a **partner agreement** and an **invoice for a £500 deposit**. (This will be due by 5<sup>th</sup> Dec but returning earlier gives the best chance of securing preferred destination & dates).



### PARTNER INFO & RESOURCES

Including Sample Partner
Agreement & Expression of
Interest Form

# **Key Dates**



Be sure to put these important dates in your calendar!

Recruiting Leaders, Hosts & Partner Teams Oct - Nov

**Leader Connect Night**Mon 24th Nov - Fri 29th Nov

Local Date

**Team Leader Training**Sat 10th Jan

**Early Application Deadline** 

Mon 26th Jan

Team members applying later may experience limited availability

**Leader Reconnect Events** 

Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Mar - Thur 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr

Local Date

Commissioning Service
Sat 20th Jun

Summer Celebrations Late Aug Theme Launch
Sat 22nd Nov

Team Member Applications Open Wed 17th Dec

Meet The Leaders Events
Mon 19th Jan - Fri 23rd Jan
Local Date\_\_\_\_\_

**Team Meetings**Feb - Jun

**Leader Placement Training**Sat 16th May

**Teams Travel**Jul - Aug



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