



# Approaches to discipleship

## Young leader development

**Aim: To develop the discipleship of under 18s through taking part in the leadership of a Messy Church.**

### 1 General suggestions

- Invite young people on to the planning team and befriend them; develop them through the opportunities presented through this. Use the Islands Map at the end of each session to talk about what treasure people have uncovered on the different islands.
- Messy Cadets – once a month, treat young people to McDonald's or similar and while there, plan an activity for the next Messy Church together. Use the Islands Map.
- Run the EMERGE course (four sessions) with a particular focus on Messy Church leadership: [bristol.anglican.org/emerge](http://bristol.anglican.org/emerge)
- Messy 'Badge' (see below) – Encourage young people to take part in a structured scheme for helping with different elements of Messy Church, with a checklist to work through before gaining accreditation as a young leader at each level. Have an adult Messy Mate

to reflect with them on how each item went and what it meant, not just in terms of skills but in terms of their own faith journey (e.g. What went well? What would you do differently next time? What do you feel you learned? Where did you sense God at work?). Use the Islands Map. Have a celebration, the presentation of a certificate (BRF will provide) and a prize for each level and the badge after the Three Splat Award (Lucy will look into getting one made).

- As part of any of these, take part in a diocesan day for young leaders, organised by young leaders with BRF's and your diocese's support – to encourage, thank and inspire young people, and to create a supportive local network of young people who help at Messy Church.
- Or anything else you can think of...
- We share in God's likeness and were created to be part of God's family.
- Each one is special to God, wanted and loved.

### 2 Messy Young Leaders' Badges

See separate document: Messy Young Leaders' Badges.