

Hello, I'm Lizzy. I am 26 years old and currently work at Pattern Church, Swindon, as the Children and Families Worker.

In 2015 I moved from Swindon to Bournemouth for University, with no plan of ever working for a church. In fact, I believed I would be working in theatre in London, or even abroad. After being distant from church for some time in my teens and going through a particularly challenging first year at Uni, I felt pulled to try church again. This also resulted in me experiencing Alpha for the first time.

After being at the church for a while, I got involved with the children's ministry, serving weekly in the mornings, and attending the services myself in the evening. Through serving, I experienced that 'childlike faith' that is spoken about in Matthew. I witnessed the Lord move through the lives of the children and became increasingly aware of the things he was doing in my own life. He was igniting creativity and joy in me as well as challenging me and growing me as a leader.

In 2018, the Lord encouraged me to move back to Swindon, rather than pursue a career in theatre after finishing my degree and wait on him through the next season. During this time Pattern Church planted in Swindon and I found myself involved with the church from very early on. It wasn't too long into the plant that I ended up helping temporarily as their children's worker which later resulted in becoming their full time Children and Families Worker.

Over the last six years there have been periods of waiting, wondering and frustrations at not knowing what the Lord was doing and why the plans I had for my own life never seemed to match up to the things that the Lord had planned. But I am now four years into my role at Pattern Church, and looking back, I can see how God has been shaping and equipping me to lead in my role as Children and Families Worker all along.

I encourage anyone who is in the process of discovering their calling to give everything to God and place your trust in him that he is refining you for his purpose right now. Don't waste the period of waiting and continue to seek the good that God is doing each and every day.