The booklet in this pack is part of a campaign called #WelcomeInChurch, which aims to help us start becoming a diocese where young people are welcomed, listened to, experience God and engage in faith in every church.

We are asking church members to consider specifically praying for and connecting with young people in their church. If every adult in our Diocese did this, many more young people would feel welcomed and connected in our churches. This is something hard to measure but will have a noticeable impact on congregations over time.

What we’re providing

- Printed copies of the booklet, “Young People and the Church”
- Guidance on praying for and connecting with young people, available by subscribing at bit.ly/welcomeinchurch
- Printable guidance for running a session with your PCC
- Promotional materials including images for projection and newsletters

Order your booklets and access everything you need at: www.london.anglican.org/welcomeinchurch

What you can do in your church

The booklet is designed to be simple and timeless. It does not try to answer all the questions or solve all the problems. It will, however, start conversations. Here are some simple ideas for engaging your church with the booklet and other resources:

1. Place a few copies on “that table” (where all the leaflets go), then give them out by hand during or before a service – people will enjoy reading them, so putting them in directly their hands is a great way to highlight its importance.

2. Combine the above with a promotion/plug during a service. Your endorsement will encourage people to read and talk about it. Challenge: try to include it in a sermon!

3. Encourage your small group leaders (if this is your thing) to use them as conversation starters. Ask for some written summaries. We can send you some questions if needed!

4. Ask your PCC to read it and discuss. If helpful, we have produced guidance for running a 40-minute session, which includes more cartoons(!) and creates space for a wider conversation about young people and the church. An Area Youth Advocate would love to help facilitate this session with you.

5. You may read the booklet and think, “I wonder what our young people think about church?” This is an excellent thought, so ask them! Try and start the dialogue with young people in your community – we can even send someone to help if needed.

Whatever you do, we would like to know how you get on – feel free to email us anytime at youth@london.anglican.org.