

Children and Families Minister

Position:	Children & Families Minister
Salary:	up to £15,000pa (30,000pa pro rata), depending on experience plus pension provision
Hours:	20 hours (½ week) and a flexible working week which will include Sundays, some weekday evenings and occasional Saturdays.
Expenses:	All reasonable work-related expenses to be reimbursed
Duration:	2 years (extendable, depending on finance)
Probation:	3 months
Holidays:	6 weeks (15 days) pro rata + bank holidays (or time off in lieu for major Christian festivals)
Responsible to:	The Rector
Employed by:	The Parochial Church Council (PCC)

Overview

We are looking for a Christian leader to bring vision, leadership and growth to the children's ministry at St Mary's and have pastoral oversight for all activities, groups and events for those aged 0-11.

Introduction

St Mary's is a lively village church serving the diverse needs of our growing community (pop 6,500+). Our church members come from a wide variety of Christian backgrounds and we reflect this in a mix of traditional and contemporary services. Our vision is to 'Make the light, life and love of God known in our world' and we do this by 'Being with Jesus, becoming like Jesus and doing what Jesus did'.

You will be responsible for re-envisioning our children's ministries; training and expanding our existing volunteer team and working with the leadership to build strong links between our church-based work, our fringe ministries and the wider community.

At the time of writing, St Mary's church building is undergoing extensive improvements and we are meeting in the local community centre until the end of April 2020. The successful applicant will be part of our journey as we re-envision our ministry and mission following our return to the church.

We currently have connections with many children and families through our All-age services, Sunday groups, 'Stepping Stones' (weekly toddler group), monthly 'Who Let The Dads Out?' toddler group, occasional Messy Church, church-based children's choir: 'Sing Out Saints', weekly local youth group and Liss infant and Junior schools as well as the community opportunities afforded by being in a large village. At present we have no overall leader holding all this together and creating a strategy for future growth, mission and discipleship. Could that be you?

You will:

- Set and lead the vision for our children's ministry.
- Contribute to the development of strategy, planning and vision for St Mary's and champion the needs of children and families.
- Be a fully active, committed, worshipping member of St Mary's, working with the leadership as part of our staff team.
- Train and gather a volunteer team around you (we already have a number of experienced and willing volunteers).
- Ideally, have a track record of training, inspiring and growing volunteer-leaders to assist them in this vital ministry.
- Pastorally care for the children and their families in the church in conjunction with clergy, readers and pastoral care team.
- Create age-appropriate discipleship and mission opportunities.
- Work alongside the clergy in strengthening relationships with our local primary schools including regular assemblies and seasonal and occasional events (Harvest, Remembrance, Christmas, baptisms, village events etc).
- Work alongside staff and volunteers to plan and deliver church services – particularly the all-age services (currently two a month).
- Be proactive in your ongoing training and development as a leader, seeking to build a network of relationships that encourage self-reflection, accountability, mentoring and guidance.
- Alongside our Safeguarding Rep, ensure that all our volunteers are 'safely recruited' and compliant with our church & Diocesan safeguarding policies and procedures.

Personal Qualities and Skills

- A committed follower of Jesus
- A desire to inspire, teach and empower children
- Relevant experience working with children
- A relevant qualification in theology and/or children's ministry is desirable.
- Exceptional interpersonal and organisational skills.
- Self-motivated, able to learn from mistakes and criticism, handle conflict, manage own workload.
- Experience of working with volunteers (recruiting, leading, training and motivating)
- Experience of working as part of a team, building and maintaining good relationships.
- Experience in working pastorally with children and their families
- Awareness of pressures and challenges facing children
- Computer-literate and competent in the use of social media.
- Experience in primary schools is desirable.

This job description is not exhaustive and will be reviewed, in consultation with the post holder, depending on their gifts and abilities, and amended in light of the changing needs of the church. If you would like to know more, we invite you to have an informal conversation with our Rector, Rev Chris Williams. Please email RevChris007@gmail.com or phone 01730 890085.

Deadline 22 March

It is a Genuine Occupational Requirement that the postholder is Christian.