

Children and Families Worker Job Description

Context: the Benefice of Eynsham & Cassington

St. Leonard's and St. Peter's are seeking to be churches who follow Jesus Christ. We are committed to caring for one another and sharing the love of God through our words and deeds. We prioritise worship, prayer, fellowship and learning from the Bible, so that our lives might be transformed by the Holy Spirit to be a blessing to those around us and pleasing to God.

Core purpose of the role:

To build on, and develop the church's mission and ministry to children and their families, by:

- championing the discipleship of children and families at St Leonard's and St. Peter's;
- responsible for the strategy of creating opportunities to share the Gospel with children and families within the villages and church communities;
- providing oversight, within a team, for the children's and families ministry within the Benefice;
- nurturing and developing the gifts of others in working with children and families enabling the team to develop a vision and make progress in mission and ministry;
- developing stronger links with other community based organisations, particularly the primary schools, within which we can serve and contribute.

Main duties and responsibilities

1. Give strategic oversight to the existing ministry and mission with children and families, to enable children to follow Jesus Christ in ways appropriate to their age and stage.
2. Explore and create fresh expressions of children and their families work in our communities.
3. Integrate the children's and families work into the wider Church, including working as part of the leadership team to shape and lead acts of worship accessible for all.
4. Deliver Collective worship at our church school in Cassington and develop links with Eynsham Primary School.
5. Strengthen our wider involvement with children and families at St Peter's Primary school.
6. Nurture and develop a team of volunteers and helpers including:

- a. supporting and encouraging volunteers in their roles
 - b. co-ordinating opportunities for training and understanding of best practice in children and family ministry and model good practice to others
 - c. being conversant with the Diocesan Safeguarding policies and to ensure they are understood and adhered to at all times
 - d. ensuring all volunteers are recruited in line with the Diocesan Safer Recruitment policy
7. Work within a team to address the pastoral needs of families, children and care-givers in the local community.
 8. Actively seek to collaborate with the youth worker where appropriate.
 9. Support & work with the Vicar and ministry team on matters relating to children and families, as well as engaging in mutual encouragement and strategic thinking at staff business and prayer meetings
 10. Engage in line management, reviewing processes and reporting to the PCC.
 11. Implement and adhere to all applicable legal policies as outlined by Oxford Diocese and agreed by the PCC, including those relating to safeguarding and child protection.
 12. Undertake relevant training and development pertaining to your role. You will also be encouraged and supported to engage in your own spiritual development.

Person specification

The successful candidate will:

- have a lively Christian faith rooted in a pattern of personal prayer, bible reading and gathered worship, seeking to grow in Christlikeness; *
- have a passion to see families and children develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and to grow in their discipleship;
- be able to communicate the message of the Gospel, teaching the bible in an engaging and accessible way.;
- have first-hand experience (paid or non-paid) in leading or co-ordinating activities for children and families that are appropriate for the context;
- have a clear understanding of young people and principles of children's work;
- have demonstrated confident leading and teaching in corporately gathered settings; for example within a church, school or holiday club context;
- understand the importance of safeguarding and safe practice principles in children's work;
- have relevant knowledge and experience (paid or unpaid) of children's ministry and outreach work with families;

- be able to engage with and relate to a wide range of families and individuals, and to work collaboratively with both lay and ordained people, maintaining relationships in accordance with Christian teaching;
- Be proactive, capable of identifying and developing opportunities and of facilitating their implementation;
- Be organised and flexible in approach, able to manage a diverse workload and wide-ranging responsibilities through effective time management;
- have a willingness and ability to work co-operatively and collaboratively with others.
- Be computer literate and have experience of online communications;
- Be willing to become a worshipping member within the Benefice.

*The post holder will, at times, be the public face of the church, it is considered that there is a Occupational Requirement (OR) for the postholder to be a communicant member of the Church of England, or of a Church in communion therewith or of a member Church of the Council of Churches for Britain and Ireland or of Churches Together in England.

The appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced DBS disclosure.

Key relationships

Incumbent
 Curate (where applicable)
 Childrens and Families Team
 Youth Worker
 Leaders/co-ordinators

Reporting

To be agreed with line manager and PCC.

Accountability and Support

- Line Management - To be appropriately delegated by the Incumbent/PCC
- Pastoral Care/Offline Supervision - by arrangement with successful candidate

May 2022