

Children, Youth and Families Worker

Full time: 37.5 hours/week

(due to the nature of the role, some Saturday, Sunday, evening and bank holiday working will be required)

Salary: £23,000 - £25,000 depending on experience

Holiday entitlement: 28 days (including bank holidays)

Start date: as soon as possible

Responsible to: The PCC with the Vicar being the Line Manager

It is an occupational requirement that the post holder be a Christian. This exciting post is initially for one year with the possibility to extend further and will be subject to a six-month probationary period. This post is subject to ongoing DBS checks and safeguarding training.

This is a time of real potential for our Parish. With two new, large housing developments in our villages, we want to share our passion for spreading the gospel to children, youth and families. We value children, youth and families in our churches, and already have dynamic youth groups ranging from little ones to late teens. We run a variety of groups, with fun and games based on Biblical themes, and for the older ones helping to equip them to become our Church and leaders of the future. We have close relationships with our local Church of England primary schools and involvement with our secondary schools. We are seeking someone with a passion for Jesus and a real desire to work with children, youth and families. Our expectation is that the successful candidate will be involved in our Sunday mornings, and will want to be involved with serving alongside other members of the church, outside of paid activities.

Job Description

As an integral part of our church family you will:

- Play a key role in developing and delivering a strategy for the growth of the families, youth and children's ministry, working closely with the vicar, church leaders and our team of volunteers.
- Develop and nurture relationships with families within the churches and wider community to support them to find Jesus and grow in faith.
- Engage with and nurture parents, carers, children and young people in their spiritual walk and develop and deliver appropriate teaching and outreach programmes for various age-groups.
- Enhance our network with the local community through other local churches, schools and other agencies to provide outreach activities and develop new ones.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Working closely with the vicar and leadership team, build on and enhance the current strategy for our work with children, young people and families exploring new areas for mission and evangelism with unchurched families and young people.
- Working closely with the vicar, to be a key part in the ministry and mission team in developing parent, children and young people's programmes which may include leading Sunday services.
- Build on and develop programmes such as Alpha and confirmation classes to help parents, young people and families to explore and mature in their Christian faith.
- Have due regard to the national Church of England safeguarding requirements, working closely with the Parish Safeguarding Officer to ensure that voluntary leaders are DBS checked and complete the required safeguarding training.
- Develop and lead/participate in programmes for young people in the local community and in our two Church of England schools by leading assemblies and teaching, and by building key relationships and evangelising.
- Develop, support and encourage our team of willing volunteers.

KEY ACTIVITIES:

We currently have a range of activities which will underpin the role:

- Weekly groups for children and young people and monthly Messy Church
- Supporting and developing our Alpha and follow-on Connect group
- Plan and lead events throughout the year, including holiday clubs, seasonal activities, and occasional residential trips
- Working with schools to create Christian clubs and outreach opportunities
- Support and occasionally run parents' and youth Alpha courses and support confirmation classes
- Regular meetings with the vicar, other leaders and the mission and ministry team

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES:

We are looking for you to shape the role as you come to find new opportunities to grow faith and relationships:

- To seek God for a fresh vision for children and young people in our parish.
- To co-ordinate and develop the existing programme of activities for the children and youth of the parish in Nursling and Rownhams.
- To have responsibility, with the current parish team, for the pastoral care of children, young people and parents who attend church activities.
- To develop links with local families with young children and young people in the parish and build positive relationships between the church and our community.
- To enable the articulation of the views and concerns of children and young people to the wider church.
- To encourage families with young children and teenagers to take an active part in church worship, and to develop their gifts and talents.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

In conjunction with the Vicar:

- Co-ordinate the children's and young people's activities within the parish.
- Practically and prayerfully assist with the recruitment, training, encouragement and support of voluntary leaders and teenage helpers.
- Overall responsibility for NET, MORE and any other children, youth and family activities, with the support of other volunteer leaders.
- Develop and evaluate projects working in partnership with families and young people.
- Develop opportunities to teach, provide pastoral support, and nurture the faith of children, young people and parents/carers.
- Foster and support links with local schools and youth groups.
- Attend PCC and any other appropriate church meetings when requested.
- Keep administration, planning and records up-to-date, and meet all statutory, legal and mandatory requirements.

If you would like to apply for this position, please email your current CV and a short personal statement of up to 1000 words out-lining why you would like this role, and what you feel you would bring to this position, to the parish administrator, Abigail Seymour, at office@twinspires.org.uk.

For more information about our church, please visit our website: twinspires.org.uk.

If you have any questions or would like an informal discussion, please contact Abigail as above.

The closing date for applications is midnight on Monday 31st January 2022.