

St George's Church Lincoln

Children's and Families Outreach Worker

Role Description

Overall Purpose: To spearhead our outreach to children and young families and to lead a team of volunteers engaged in ministry amongst them.

Background: We have a small Children's Church with members aged 7-14; we have a church-run pre-school 'Swallow's Nest' which meets on the premises with approx. 20 pre-school children attending daily; a church-run parent and toddler group meets in our halls; we run Messy Church monthly; we have previously run an annual holiday club, which 30 children attended in 2018 and we hope to do so again. We hold occasional events such as Christingle services and Bright Light Party (a Hallowe'en alternative) which attract a good number of non-church children and families. There are 2 primary schools, one infants' school, one secondary school, one 'all-needs' school and one other pre-school in the parish. We have good links with one of the primary schools where the Vicar or others lead collective worship on a regular basis. We go into the other schools occasionally, and we are seeking to build up the contacts there.

In the past St George's had a strong and lively children's and families' ministry with upwards of 40 children below the age of 11 attending regularly. In addition to Sunday morning children's 'Young Church' groups, there were midweek after-school activities run on a regular basis, a large annual summer holiday club attracting 70+ children, a monthly Tea-time Church and other one-off events. This has contracted considerably over the past few years and we are in need of someone with vision and energy to give a lead and provide fresh impetus to our work amongst children and young families.

We believe there is much potential to be exploited.

Whilst the job can be tailored to an extent to fit the skills of the post-holder, the emphasis for this role is upon outreach and development of this work, seeking to reach out to young families and children, and build the number of them at St George's.

Main Responsibilities

Under the oversight of the Incumbent and with the assistance of paid pastoral staff and volunteers

1. To develop ministry and outreach to children:
 - a. To plan, organise and lead a manageable and effective programme of initiatives to reach out to children and families by continuing existing initiatives and/or developing new ones such as Messy Church, Holiday Club, Bright Light Party and Christingle Services, after-school clubs, Sunday or weekday Tea-time church
 - b. To lead the team of volunteers and take part in delivering our Sunday morning 'Young Church' programme.
 - c. To increase and develop involvement with the children's and families' groups that meet on our premises such as Swallow's Nest and the Parent and Toddler Group, developing links with the parents and whole family.
 - d. To work with the primary, infant and pre-schools within the parish, taking collective worship and offering help with lessons as appropriate to the school context.

2. To develop ministry and outreach to families by:
 - a. Involvement in baptism preparation, follow-up visits and longer-term support and encouragement.
 - b. Developing other initiatives to reach out to families such as parenting courses, Mums and Daughters/Dads and Lads events, Family Fun Days or the like.
 - c. Assisting the church pastoral staff with the pastoral care of young parents and families as may be appropriate.

3. Other areas of ministry:
 - a. Assist in the planning and delivery of worship as required, particularly in relation to all-age worship and seasonal events.

Please note: this position could be full-time or part-time depending upon the applicant.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The person appointed will have some or all of the following:

<u>Character, skill or attribute</u>	<u>Desirable</u>	<u>Essential</u>
A mature Christian faith.		✓
A love for children and families and a passion for children and families' outreach and ministry.		✓
Ability to form and build good relationships with children and families.		✓
A team leader, with good interpersonal skills, able to lead, motivate, encourage and equip a team of volunteers and/or paid staff.		✓
An understanding of how children and adults grow in faith.		✓
Knowledge of and commitment to good practice in Safeguarding – or willingness to learn the same as a priority.		✓
A team player, willing and able to work alongside the Incumbent and other church staff, officers and volunteers		✓
Self-motivated and reliable.		✓
Able to articulate and share their faith clearly and effectively with others		✓
Strong organisational, planning and time management skills	✓	
Experience and/or qualifications in teaching or children's ministry, paid or voluntary	✓	
Sound IT skills and knowledge of social media used by families	✓	
Ability to drive and with a valid driving licence	✓	
Ability to come alongside and develop others.	✓	

An understanding of the challenges of family life and in light of this, how we might support families.	✓	
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There is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a Christian.

The post is subject to an Enhanced DBS disclosure.

How to apply

Please provide:

1. A full CV, with supporting letter, detailing amongst other things:
 - your training, qualifications and experience to date
 - what you believe you would bring to this role
2. Details of two referees who know you well, at least one of whom should be able to comment on work you have done amongst children and/or young families. These may include your present or past employer and your current church minister.

Please send the above to:

Rev Tim Voltzenlogel
St George's Vicarage
87 Eastbrook Road
Lincoln
LN6 7EW

Or by email to: rev.tim@stgeorgeslincoln.org.uk

Closing date for applications: Friday 6th March 2020

Interview date: tba