

Worshipping God

Sharing his love

Making him known

**Childrens’ and Families’ Worker for St. Mark’s Church, Bilton, Rugby**

**Job Description**

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| **Job Title:** | Children and Families’ Worker |
| **Responsible To:** | The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mark’s Rugby |
| **Hours:** | 20 hours a week, with Sunday as a core day |
| **Salary:** | £15,000 (FTE £30,000) |
| **Contract Type:** | 2 years fixed term contract |

This is an exciting opportunity for a dynamic Christian to shape this brand new role and to work with colleagues to strengthen and grow our existing links with schools; to encourage children and young people to be active members of the Church and wider community and to work with families to ensure they are engaged in all aspects of Church life. St Mark’s is also currently recruiting for a new Rector, after our Rector was recently appointed Acting Archdeacon Pastor of Coventry Diocese, which provides a unique opportunity for the successful candidate to work with a new Rector and our Associate Minister to scope out how to successfully achieve our objectives in terms of successful working with children and families.

St. Mark’s, like many churches, has fewer families and young people within the congregation than before the pandemic. Currently we offer Junior Church, a Youth Club and Teen Talk as well as a vibrant Choir and Music Group, with the choir having some membership of children and young people. Similarly there is a toddler group which meets in the Church building during term-time. However, we would like to welcome more families and young people into our Church family as well as engaging better with those already in the congregation. Previously St. Mark’s has also run Messy Church, very successfully at a local school. However, despite efforts to revive Messy Church after the pandemic these efforts have not been successful.

Initial research has been undertaken by a small working party of Church members, who have been guided by Thrive to explore current thoughts and ideas for working with young people and engaging them in all elements of Church life. Similarly, an extensive report was also produced by the Reverend Eira Hale on developing stronger links with local schools. St. Mark’s is keen to use this initial research as a basis for this new role and would require the successful candidate to identify new initiatives for engaging families and children in ways that are both exciting and appropriate for sharing the love of Christ, as well as strengthening existing, and developing new links with the wider community, particularly schools.

**Specific areas of responsibility**

* *Developing relationships*: build on the existing work with children and families, supporting the Ministry Team including the Choir and Music leaders and developing new activities and initiatives to help St. Mark’s engage with its local community. To be proactive in building relationships and actively engaging families more in the worshipping life of the church.
* *Communicating the Gospel***:** enable children and their families to come to faith, to grow in confidence as Christians and to participate in the life of St. Mark’s.
* *Engagement:*enable and empower volunteers to work alongside you in proclaiming the Gospel in word and action, through outreach activities and church-based events.
* *Partnerships:*collaborate with the Diocese of Coventry, Diocesan Board of Education, local schools, Mission Hub at St. Andrew’s Church and the Foundation Governors as well as engaging with national organisations / partnerships where appropriate. To partner with other churches and/or voluntary groups working in the parish, in order to share fully in the church’s engagement with community events.

**Person Specification**

The successful candidate must be able to demonstrate:

* Experience of working with children and families.
* Being a committed Christian who is open to talking about the Christian faith in the hope that others may find a meaningful faith and relationship with God.
* A passion for identifying, and maximizing, opportunities for children to experience the love of God in practice.
* The ability to work alone, undertake research and to be a creative self-starter.
* The ability to work within the context of St. Mark’s liaising with clergy, church wardens, the PCC and the congregation to ensure all are kept up to date and informed.
* The ability to identify where leadership is needed by the Children’s and Families’ Worker and to be willing to ask for help and support where needed.
* Being a good communicator with good listening skills and interpersonal skills.
* Being patient and to be open to new ideas and suggestions.
* The ability to project manage and to plan and lead worship in Church and at Schools where required.
* Good administrative competence, including ICT skills and managing a budget.
* Having a strong faith and prayer life to support their work in this area.

The following are desirable:

* Some musical ability, which may extend to singing or playing a musical instrument. This may include the ability to run a small music group in addition to the existing music group and Choir.
* A full driving license with access to a car.
* A First Aid qualification.

**Employer:** The Parochial Church Council (PCC) of St Mark’s Rugby

The post-holder will need to work in close co-operation with other staff, the churchwardens, and volunteers.

**Summary of main terms and conditions of employment**:

Comprehensive terms and conditions of the contract of employment will be issued, including the items below and a Staff Handbook with relevant policies and procedures.

It is an Occupational Requirement (Schedule 9 part 1 of the Equality Act 2010) of this post to have a committed Christian faith and an Enhanced DBS Disclosure is required.

* Start Date: as soon as giving appropriate notice allows. There will be a six-month probation period.
* Hours: 20 hours a week, with Sunday as core day; other days to be agreed with the Line Manager and to fit with the church’s requirements. How the hours are distributed throughout the week will be agreed with the Line Manager.
* Salary: £15,000 (FTE £30,000)
* Expenses: on the job expenses are paid, including use of your car or bike as appropriate.
* Holidays: 28 days pro rata (ability to work during the Christmas and Easter periods is essential).
* Pension: You will be enrolled into a workplace pension scheme. Further details will be provided.

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