

WONERSH CHURCH

Parish of Wonerash with Blackheath St John the Baptist

Job Description: Children and Families Worker

Hours Full time 40 hours per week, with flexible hours but to include Sundays

Starting Date TBC but with anticipated start date of 01/11/2021

Starting Salary: Competitive salary package to be discussed, which can include a 3 bed house provided rent-free for the better performance of the role. Full working expenses and pension contribution.

Introduction

We are looking for a passionate, experienced, committed Children and Families worker to inspire, oversee and organise the children and youth work, with particular emphasis on growing the 0-11s and making lasting relationships with families within the Parish of Wonerash and Blackheath.

The successful candidate will have a strong and vibrant Christian faith and a deep desire to share God's love through ministry with young people, children and their families.

Aims and Values

- To nurture children and young people within the church family and the wider community to become lifelong disciples of Christ
- To help children and young people grow to become adult members of the church
- To reach out to children and young people in the community of Wonerash and Blackheath
- To build relationships with parents across the community as a whole
- To form links with local schools and children's groups

The Role

The role is a replacement for a youth and children worker who has moved on to ordination training. It is a full time position, as part of our senior leadership team, with an emphasis on the younger age range because the majority of the children and young people attending our groups are currently below the age of 11.

Reporting to the Vicar, the job holder will be responsible for overseeing all aspects of Wonerash and Blackheath Churches Youth and Children's ministry, through management and oversight of all the volunteer leaders and face to face involvement in having particular responsibility for the work with young people aged 0-11.

The job holder will have the opportunity to shape the new role by identifying and implementing new ways of discipling children and young people within the church and developing creative outreach to all children, young people and their families within the parish community, including Wonerash and Shamley Green Primary School and local secondary schools.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

- To review and develop the strategy for children and youth ministry, in liaison with the PCC and ministry team
- To advocate for children and youth ministry within the wider vision of the church and PCC, including participation/leading in occasional church services
- To initiate outreach to children and young people in the community, including holiday clubs, camps, outings, weekends away & family events
- To be responsible for leading the young children's and youth activities on a Sunday (Blaze, Glow and Forge) and mid-week alongside existing youth leaders
- To lead, recruit, train and support the teams of volunteer leaders who lead each group
- To provide pastoral support and mentoring for the young people, either personally or via another person as circumstances require.
- To ensure adequate and efficient administration of each of the groups (registers, safeguarding, buying materials, programme planning, communication with group members, parents and the wider church)
- To ensure that the church's safeguarding policy is implemented in liaison with the Safeguarding Officer and to be responsible for the day-to-day tasks associated with this (DBS checks completed, volunteers training, risk assessments etc.)
- To undergo regular relevant training as identified with your line manager to keep skills and knowledge up to date

Other responsibilities include

- Involvement in all weekly staff meetings (indicate frequency; approx. Weekly??)
- Being a visible presence in the life of the church and village, and keeping the profile of the Children's and Youth ministry visible to all ages
- Overseeing the budget for Children's and Youth work

Experience and Skills Required

The job holder must be able to demonstrate the following:

- An understanding of youth culture, and the specific issues that young people in Wonersh and Blackheath Church face
- A track record of preparing and leading a balanced programme of Bible studies, discussions and social activities for young people
- The ability to work at a senior level as part of the church leadership team
- A minimum of 3 to 5 years experience of children's ministry in a church context
- Mentoring, teaching and discipleship skills
- Successful team work with other adults
- An up to date understanding of Safeguarding policies and the ability to work within and adhere to them

Secondary Skills and experience

- A full driving licence
- Up-to-date IT skills and understanding of social media

Personal Qualities

The job holder should:

- Be able to inspire and disciple children and young people.
- Be comfortable working within an inclusive Anglican Church located in a village setting
- To model the lifestyle of the PCC's inclusive evangelical Anglican ethos to the children, young people and adults in both public duties and private choices

- Have good interpersonal skills and be at ease with children, young people and adults
- Be committed to the local church and have an understanding of the Church of England and the role of a parish church in a village community
- Be able to motivate themselves and others
- Be a good team player, able to work with, support and encourage other leaders
- Be flexible and innovative, able to adapt to changing circumstances and to develop new ways of working
- Have excellent organisational and leadership skills
- Be willing to undergo licensing as a lay worker in the Diocese of Guildford

Place of Work

Your places of work will be across the following areas:

1. St John the Baptist Church, Wonersh, GU5 0PG. This is the main place of worship on a Sunday for people with families
2. St Martin's, Blackheath, GU4 8RA. Where there is opportunity to grow a work with families
3. Lawnsmead Hall (GU5 0PQ). Where many of the youth activities will occur.
4. The Vicarage, Wonersh. Which will be available for use by children and youth for specific activities, especially on a Sunday.
5. Your accommodation. (Springfield Cottage, Barnett Lane, Wonersh GU5 0SA). For the better performance of your duties, you will be able to use your accommodation where appropriate and convenient. Occupation of this accommodation may be subject to a separate licence agreement.

Review

There will be a probationary period of six months and annual reviews of job description and performance with the Vicar.

Note

There is a genuine occupational requirement that the job-holder is a Christian, comfortable working within an Evangelical Anglican Context. Appointment is subject to satisfactory references and a satisfactory DBS disclosure at an enhanced plus level.