

Children and Families Worker

We're looking for an energetic, fun and enthusiastic Children and Families Worker to share our vision of 'Growing together in Faith, Hope and Love.' It's an exciting time for the parish as we set a course for the future as a vibrant and growing community. There's enormous potential in our ministry with children and their families. We have much to build on and much to develop. In particular, this role of Children and Families Worker is focused upon preschool to 11yrs.

We are a Church of England Parish committed to a thoughtful, generous and inclusive faith. If you're someone who can help children explore spirituality, meaning and purpose in imaginative and inspiring ways then we would love to hear from you.

| | |
|------------------------|---|
| Employer: | Parochial Church Council (PCC) of Esher, Church Street, Esher, KT10 8QS. |
| Line Manager: | The Revd Darren McCallig Rector, The Parish of Esher. |
| Places of Work: | Home and Christ Church, Church Street, Esher, KT10 8QS. There may also be work at Esher Church School and in parishioners' homes. |
| Hours: | 14 hours per week, to include Sundays and occasional evening and weekend work. |
| Salary: | £8,500. |
| Leave: | 5 weeks annually, plus Bank Holidays. |
| Start Date: | As soon as practicable. |
| Terms: | There is flexibility in terms of some home-working and in terms of the days and hours of work, around a limited number of fixed points. The job is, in the first instance, for 2 years, with a 6 month probationary period. |

The Parish of Esher is fully committed to safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. A DBS check at enhanced plus level is required for this role. The post holder will also be required to undertake training toward a full knowledge of safeguarding best practice.

Main Tasks and Responsibilities

Working with the Rector, other clergy, PCC members and church volunteers:

- To lead our our Sunday morning children's activities. At present we have a small number of toddlers and some older children. We would love to continue to grow this 'Sunday School' ministry.

- To restart a midweek Toddlers Group. There had been such a group in the parish in the past and we feel there is a great scope for its re-establishment.
- To develop a monthly 'Messy Church' gathering, combining craft activities with hospitality and age-appropriate exploration of the sacred.
- To develop an appropriate monthly gathering for children aged 7 to 11.
- To assist with our seasonal children's and families activities, e.g. Easter Egg Hunt, Christmas Shoebox Appeal, Christingle, Crib Services, etc.
- To develop new and existing volunteers, and identify their training needs.
- To provide reports on activities to the Parochial Church Council (typically 6 reports per annum) as well as a report to the Annual Parochial Church Meeting.
- In liaison with the Safeguarding Officers, Parish Administrator, and PCC ensure the church's Safeguarding policy is followed in full.
- To be committed to, and engage with, Diocesan training and support and professional development opportunities, in consultation with the Rector.

Possibilities for Development of the Role

It may be that, as the parish continues to move out of lockdown, other possibilities will present themselves, and so we would like the person appointed to be open to the development of the post.

This may involve, for example, involvement in the preparation and leadership of the monthly All Age services; or the development of a Sunday morning creche; or undertaking occasional Assemblies in the parish primary school (we also have a parish High School for students aged 11 to 16). Any such developments would be agreed in consultation and appropriate training and support would be provided, as well as commensurate increases in working hours and salary.

Experience, skills and personal requirements

We are looking for the right person, not simply the right CV. If you're creative, energetic and a great communicator with children we want to hear from you even if you feel you don't tick all of the boxes below.

We don't expect you to have degrees in theology, but we do want someone who values the Christian spiritual tradition and the role faith can play in helping young people to reach their full potential. As a parish we're committed to including everyone – the questioning just as much as the committed – and we hope you will be too. In general, we ask that you have:

- A commitment to the inclusive Christian values of the Parish of Esher and a willingness to participate fully in its worshipping life.

- Experience of working / volunteering with children and families within a church, school or community context.
- Good communication skills with children in an up-front teaching setting.
- Good self-organisational skills, self-motivation, flexibility and the ability to prioritise and get things done.
- Competent administrative skills as well as good IT skills.
- An ability to work well with others while representing the Church.
- A willingness to complete an enhanced DBS enclosure, as well as a willingness to undertake safeguarding training.
- A good sense of humour.

For an informal conversation about this post, please feel free to contact the Rector, the Revd Darren McCallig on 01372 461 088 or rector@esherparish.org.uk

Closing Date: Friday 6 May at 5.00pm.