

CHILDREN & FAMILIES WORKER

15 Hours per Week in Term Time Only



INTRODUCTION

St Nicolas has an excellent track record of working with children and families. This is an area of growth and innovation we are keen to expand. The purpose of this role is to lead existing volunteers and teams in nurturing the primary-age children within our church community and to develop the outreach to children and their families in our Parish area.

We are looking for someone who will be willing to think outside the box; someone with the skills to enhance our current ministry to children and their families whilst also bringing new vision and new ways for reaching out into the community. This is a missional role and we hope to appoint someone who has a heart for children and families, both inside and outside the church, and the vision and initiative to start new things as an inclusive part of St Nicolas. The person we appoint will already be part of our Sunday congregation or be happy to join that congregation.

ROLE

The Children and Families Worker will develop St Nicolas' work with children and young families in Earley in three key areas:

- (1) **Co-ordinating** the current work with children and young families. Ensuring it is 'joined up', that groups and activities are working in harmony with one another sharing a common vision and mission
- (2) **Extending** our work with young children and their families, supporting and encouraging our existing volunteer leaders, whilst enabling new initiatives
- (3) **Building relationships** with families and following up those who visit us and offering pastoral support where appropriate

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead and develop St Nicolas' current work with young children and their families, including:
 - Leading the team for **God Squad** (Sunday mornings, ages 4-10), involving preparation of resources and activities, recruiting and training volunteer leaders
 - Coordinating **Noah's Ark** toddler group on Monday mornings
 - Leading the **People, Prayers and Potatoes** Messy Church team in planning and delivering monthly services
- Join clergy team in baptism preparation, services and follow up as an going point of contact for families so that they are encouraged to feel part of the church family
- Be a presence out and about in the parish, known and trusted by families in the area, providing a bridge between them and St Nicolas church
- Promote awareness of children's ministry and encourage connectivity through creative use of social media
- Understand and implement best practice in children's work, including Health & Safety and Safeguarding policies and procedures and model good practice to others

PERSONAL ATTRIBUTES

- A committed and practising Christian
- A heart for mission and community
- A love for children and families, and an ability to relate warmly to them
- A desire to help children and families discover God's love and grow as disciples of Jesus
- A team player – someone who is able to enthuse and inspire volunteers in their ministries at St Nicolas
- An eagerness to learn, try new things and work with flexibility and enthusiasm
- Ability to respect matters of confidentiality and sensitivity

QUALIFICATIONS, SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Previous experience in a child or youth work role, preferably in a church context is desirable
- Ability to communicate and engage with groups of adults and children, including enthusiasm for sharing the Gospel in an inspiring and accessible way
- Experience in co-ordinating programmes/events
- Excellent pastoral skills with adults and children
- Strong organisational, time management and administrative skills
- Confident IT skills with knowledge of varied social media channels
- Awareness of Safeguarding and Health & Safety and willingness to be trained

TERMS

- **Responsible to:** The Vicar, as line manager
- **Accountable to:** The Parochial Church Council St Nicolas Church
- **Hours per week:** Average 15 but to be arranged with flexibility during school term time
- **Pay:** £10.50 per hour and reasonable work expenses paid
- **Dates:** Subject to discussion
- **Contract:** 1 years (probation period 2 months)
- **Termination:** 6 weeks for both parties
- **Closing Date for Application:** 13th July 2018
- **Interview Date:** 19th July 2018

Please send a covering letter and C.V. to:

office@stnicolas.org.uk mark your email Application

If you would like an informal conversation about the role, please call Revd Neil Warwick on 0118 966 5060

There is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a Christian.

The post is subject to an Enhanced DBS disclosure.