 **Job Description**

 **Children and Families Lead**

**This is an exciting opportunity to grow and develop our children’s ministry working alongside an enthusiastic and committed group of volunteers.**

**We are looking for someone with fresh vision to lead this new initiative.**

This role includes weekly attendance at Sunday Services, Storytelling (a service for pre-schoolers and their families), Messy Church (a monthly service of story, song, craft and food) and The Well (Junior Church provision during the 10:30am sung Eucharist, currently suspended), with seasonal engagement with schools and the community. There may also be occasional meetings on weekday evenings, the remaining hours being spread flexibly.

**Role and Key Responsibilities**

**Coordinating and leading St Mary's children and families work, encouraging children and their families in the church and local community to become rooted, and grow in faith in Jesus Christ:**

* Building and overseeing volunteer teams to facilitate children’s participation
* Contributing to the leadership team
* Exploring ways to ensure growth across work with children and families

**Growing our vision by:**

* building relationships with our local community, shaping and implementing new initiatives
* nurturing intergenerational relationships within the church family
* leading by example and helping parents and carers to nurture their children in faith, including growing partnerships with our Overleigh C. of E. primary school

**Key Responsibilities include:**

* working alongside our Safeguarding Officer to ensure compliance with Safeguarding, Health & Safety, Data Protection and other statutory policies in liaison with other stakeholders
* managing children’s work budget

**Skills and Qualities**

**We are looking for someone who is good at building faith and relationships. Someone who:**

* is a committed, practising Christian, who is able to inspire faith in others
* can build relationships and communicate well with children and families both within and beyond the church
* can inspire, engage and pray with children
* can teach clearly by word and example, and is confident to speak and lead in gathered worship

**We are looking for someone who can plan ahead, think creatively and work well in a team. Someone who:**

* has good organisational and administrative skills
* is a team builder, able to build, inspire, train, encourage and sustain teams of volunteers;
* can delegate and oversee effectively;
* is innovative and creative, demonstrating energy, passion and motivation to inspire others
* is able to use IT creatively

**Experience Required**

* Experience of working with children aged 0 – 11 years, ideally with experience in leading children’s work in a Christian context, working with families
* Ideally experience of leading volunteers, and of leading and working in teams is preferable.

**Working Specification**

The role is 20 hours per week. We offer flexibility in the working pattern where possible. The post holder needs to be flexible, currently we anticipate around 50% of the time being spent on core activities and responsibilities, with this proportion increasing as more activities begin.

5 weeks’ annual leave plus allowance for bank holidays (the post will involve working around Christmas and Easter).

Salary range £14,040 - £14,560 annually for 20 hours per week depending on experience with the opportunity to join an employer pension scheme.

An occupational requirement exists for the post holder to be a practising Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

An enhanced DBS disclosure will be required for the successful candidate. In addition the postholder would be expected to undertake the Diocese of Chester’s Safeguarding training.

 **Applications**

Please complete an application form detailing experience in response to the job description.

 Application Forms available from office.stmaryschester@btconnect.com

To be returned by the closing date of 15th March 2024

Informal questions about the role can be sent to the Children and Young Persons Leadrevmapickering@gmail.com