

Children and families worker job description

Ascension Church is an evangelical Anglican church in the diocese of Chichester serving the town of Peacehaven and Telscombe Cliffs. God has blessed us with a growing number of families with children and a wonderful group of volunteers to lead our Sunday groups.

We are now seeking to appoint a part time children and families worker to build, develop and establish this ministry as we grow. We want to support the parents of the church as they seek to raise their children to love Christ and depend on him for the rest of their lives. We would also love to reach out in creative ways to children and young people from the community with the gospel of Christ.

Perhaps you could be at the heart of this new step for Ascension church?

Responsibilities

Essential

- Lead Sunday morning children's groups and coordinate volunteer helpers.
- Lead outreach to children and families in the parish.
- Assist the clergy with the planning and delivery of family services.
- Giving children's talks within the Sunday service.
- Communicate clearly with the church family about matters relating to our children and young people.
- Ensure the children's and youth work maintains a high level of safeguarding practice and training.
- Provide competent technical and administrative support to facilitate the smooth running of the children and youth ministry.
- Serve as a member of Ascension Church's staff team.
- Undertake training where necessary (e.g. safeguarding, Sussex Gospel Partnership Bible training course).

Desirable, depending on gifts and experience

- Develop provision for 11-18 year olds within the parish, in the form of outreach activities and a mid-week club.
- Launch a mid-week club for 8-11 year olds.
- Support our existing baby and toddler group ("Tikes and Trikes").
- Develop the existing outreach to local primary schools by leading assemblies, religious education lessons and/or Christian Union groups.
- With the clergy, prepare young people for confirmation.

Person Specification

Whoever is appointed to this role will need to be able to become an active and committed member of Ascension Church Peacehaven, supporting the ministry here and attending Sunday services and other groups for personal spiritual growth and discipleship.

We are seeking an active and growing disciple of Jesus Christ, of evangelical convictions, who has the following qualities:

Essential

- Is committed to growing continually in relationship with God through Bible reading, prayer and dependence on the Holy Spirit.
- Has experience of work (paid or voluntary) with children and/or young people.
- Has experience and gifts in teaching the Bible to children and/or young people.
- Loves people, has strong interpersonal skills and can handle confidential information appropriately.
- Is a team-player who will work alongside the staff team and volunteers.

Desirable

- Has experience of recruiting, training and supervising volunteers.
- Is a good communicator who has the confidence to participate actively at the front of church services.
- Has a relevant youth or children's ministry qualification.

Ascension Church, Peacehaven is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders and volunteers are expected to share this commitment. All appointments are subject to acceptable pre-appointment checks, including a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Check. This post is subject to the rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) order 1975 and (Exceptions) (Amendment) order 1986.

In addition, any successful applicant will be required to undergo a basic fitness for work health check.

This post carries Genuine Occupational Requirements under the Equality Act 2010 that the successful candidate is a practising Evangelical Christian.

Additional info:

The role would be for 20 hours a week and pro-rata salary offer between £12,267 and £13,867 depending upon experience. (Full time equivalent salary £23,000-26,000.)

The worker will be employed by the PCC and the line manager will be the priest in charge.

The period of employment will be initially for three years with the potential to extend further.

There will be a six month probationary period, followed by six monthly appraisal meetings with the priest in charge and a church warden.

We will seek to link the post-holder up with other local children's workers for support and encouragement, as well as mentorship if suitable.

Application closing date: Friday 30th November 2024

Interview: Wednesday 11th December 2024

The interview will consist of a short Bible talk and a panel Q&A.

Start date: Monday 20th January 2024

To arrange an informal chat about this position or to ask any questions, please contact the priest in charge, Jez Lowries, at j.lowries@gmail.com.

To apply, please fill in the application form and email to j.lowries@gmail.com.