

Children's Outreach Worker

Person Specification

It is expected that the post holder will become a communicant member of the Church of England, and there is a genuine occupational requirement for the post holder to be a practising Christian

It is essential that you

- Have substantial experience of working with children and young people
- Are supportive of the Inclusive Church identity and central to Liberal Catholic worship style of St Mary's, East Barnet
- Share a compelling vision for the important place of children within the church, and in its priorities for mission and growth
- Have the ability to recruit, motivate and manage a team of volunteers
- Have good communication and organisation skills
- Are reliable
- Have the ability to work independently and be self-accountable for the use of your work time
- Can effectively safeguard your time off
- Have a right to work in the UK

It is desirable that you

- Have an awareness and understanding of the Church of England and the Methodist Church

- Have a recognised qualification in working with children or young people
- Have been authorised or licensed in lay or ordained ministry within the Church of England, or are willing to be trained for authorised or licensed lay ministry
- Have experience working within the church
- Have experience of schools ministry
- Have an enthusiasm for church outreach and mission
- Can demonstrate the skills in self-reflection to improve your practice, and to coach others

You must be available to work flexibly, to attend events and services including on Sundays. Working on Sunday mornings will be a regular requirement of the role, and there will be occasional requirements to work on week end afternoons or week day evenings. Beyond this, the church is supportive of flexible and home working to meet your needs.

You must have a right to work in the UK. This appointment is subject to the completion of a DBS check, confidential declarations, and completion of all required safeguarding training courses

Role Description

St Mary's, East Barnet, is seeking to appoint a Children's Outreach Worker.

This post has been funded by an external grant to engage, energise and grow the existing children's worshipping community at the church. This funding is for 3 years in the first instance.

The post is intended to build up the church's ministry among children by

- Establishing a dedicated provision for children alongside the Sunday 10am Parish Eucharist at St Mary's Church
- Building and training a team of volunteers to help deliver this provision
- Building up the teams already delivering Messy Church, children's outreach parties, and other similar events, to increase their frequency
- Producing resources to support these volunteers
- Working with St Mary's School and Brookside Methodist Church to further the partnerships of our churches and schools in mission
- Setting up regular groups for children at St Mary's Church, within the working week
- Establishing regular groups for children, relating to local schools, within the working week
- Advertising and marketing to engage with children and their families in the local area
- Offering pastoral care to children and their families, especially around life event services
- Modelling good safeguarding practice
- Attending regular team meetings, as required
- Producing reports for the church council and the annual report on a regular basis

St Mary's, East Barnet, is in ecumenical partnership with Barnet Brookside Methodist Church. It also has an extremely strong partnership with St Mary's CE Primary School, East Barnet. Within the parish of East Barnet there are also 7 other schools where links are more or less strong, but where there is great potential to grow relationships on the basis of the occasional services and teaching visits currently occurring.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic the church has established an All Age Messy Eucharist, where attendance of children is often >10, and a junior choir, Young Voices, with 6 members. The church has also begun to hold Messy Church services on a quarterly basis - usually in partnership with Brookside Methodist Church - and dedicated children's outreach parties and events with a seasonal theme.

Children's attendance at other church services, and other forms of engagement, is low; but this post will give us the capacity to build up the relationships that will allow the church to grow younger and more engaged with all its local community in all kinds of ways.

We are seeking a Children's Outreach Worker to be creative and pioneering in this work, and to help the church to make its commitment to children's ministry sustainable for the long term.

To apply please send a cover letter and CV demonstrating your suitability to the Rector at administrator@stmaryseastbarnet.org.