

Benefice of Cholsey and Moulsoford

- Children's/youth worker job description

Overview of post:

- Part-time Youth Worker post initially to work for 8 hours per week – with a view to extending the hours as the work develops
- Working for St Mary's Church, Cholsey (SMC) and St John the Baptist Church, Moulsoford (SJBC) in the local area
- St Mary's is an Anglican church with an evangelical ethos. In recent years we have been building up our children's work, Kids Club, and now have about 30 children on our books. There is a number of 9-11 year olds who are outgrowing Kids Club and 11-14 year olds who have not really been provided for and who desperately need encouragement and nurture as disciples of Christ.
There is also a smaller number of 9-11 year old children in the much smaller parish of Moulsoford, where at present the main children's ministry is a monthly Messy Church (which caters for families for children aged approximately 2-9 years old).
- We would like the ministry to work with children from both parishes together.
- We would be very happy for any youth work here to be done in collaboration with youth work at other local churches with a similar desire to see their children grow into mature disciples in Christ. However, we have come to realise that it is necessary for the children of our churches to have their own identity as a group first, in order to have the confidence to join up with other groups.
- This post is for a committed Christian who is able to maintain the current provision of youth work but also to develop it to the next level in the church and in the community.
- The post-holder will be self-motivated, creative and empowered to work within the church structures.
- The post-holder will be line managed by a member of the SMC Leadership team.
- The post-holder will have a full enhanced DBS disclosure check undertaken and be cleared to work with young people and vulnerable adults. Satisfactory references will be required prior to commencing work.

Areas of Responsibility:

- To develop and lead a team that will nurture those currently in the 9-14 age group (but with a view to extending the group, as the children grow older, up to the age of 16) in their faith development and support them in appropriate ways,
 - As well as normal church youth group activities, this will include befriending, mentoring, prayer, general pastoral support and encouraging the children to attend area wide Youth Fun days, celebrations, and summer camps
- Communicate effectively to the SMC Leadership Team and the Parochial Church Council providing termly reports and attending meetings to present reports as required.
- To work as part of the whole church and to communicate as appropriate with other groups in SMC (especially Kids Club) and SJBC (especially Messy Church)
- to seek to establish good links with one or more other local churches youth groups with a similar evangelical ethos.
- Develop, train and grow young leaders within the youth group encouraging them to grow in their own faith and empowering them to use their gifts within the church and beyond.
- To keep good links with the local primary schools and Wallingford School and any local community youth group.
- to train, encourage and empower the volunteer youth team, to administer the youth work, and help with recruiting and training new leaders and developing policies and structures to aid the development and safety of the youth work of the church.

- Maintain and take responsibility for the health and safety of all youth work at SMC including submitting risk assessments and supporting the DBS co-ordinator in carrying out checks for all volunteers of the youth work team.

Person Specification:

- At least 2 years' experience of working with young people in a church.
- Ability to communicate effectively including public speaking and small group work.
- Competent IT skills in Word, Excel and PowerPoint.
- Experience of managing teams and co-ordinating and planning youth work programmes using a team of volunteers.
- Work within a yearly budget.
- Full driving licence (preferred though not essential).
- Satisfactory DBS disclosure and references.
- Commitment to develop through training and other learning

Salary: £20,000 - £25,000 p.a. full time equivalent dependent upon experience (0.2 FTE: £4,000 - £5,000)

Pension Contribution of 3%

Holiday entitlement: 25 days pro rata

Interviews will take place in the final week of September 2017

with a view to the job starting as soon as possible once an appointment has been made

Please contact Alex Hammond email: alexhammond56@aol.com