

Children and Families Outreach Worker
Role Description

Salary: £27,000 - £30,000 pro rata depending on experience.

Hours: 20 hours a week including part of Sundays and Tuesday mornings. This can be either term time only, term time with a few weeks in the holidays or all year round.

Contract: Initially for 1 year with hope of extending to 3 years.

Welcome to St Matthew's!

Our vision is to be 'Welcoming, Vibrant and Serving the Community – God's love in action'. To inhabit this vision our focus is on Discipleship, Outreach and Social Action; doing all this with Grace and Gentleness and underpinned by a Foundation of Prayer. We are keen to appoint someone who has a heart for Jesus and is ready and keen to step out into our parish community in love.

We are an Anglican church in central Bristol, a community of all ages and diverse backgrounds, who gather together to worship God and encourage one another in our faith in Jesus Christ. We are going through an exciting period of growth as a church. While we only have a few children in our congregation, we have contact with many other families through King's Kids, our thriving Tuesday morning stay and play; and St Matthew's Playgroup, our 'Outstanding' pre-school playgroup. We're looking for someone whose main focus will be mission and outreach in the local community, through existing relationships and making new connections. However they also need to develop children's and young people's discipleship within the church.

We have a lovely team of part time and full time staff and volunteers including our Vicar, Curate, Self-Supporting Minister and Licensed Lay Minister, as well as an administrator and many committed and enthusiastic church members.

The Role:

1) Support St Matthew's vision and mission:

- Take a full and active part in the life of the church, be a member of the staff team and work closely and collaboratively with volunteers.
- Work with our safeguarding lead to ensure all volunteers are safely recruited and trained.
- Be involved in church outreach events, taking the lead on the children's and families aspects of these events. Facilitate larger, family-focused events at Christmas and Easter (working with and guiding the planning group if not able to work at these events).

2) Lead the church children's and families ministry on Sundays:

- Plan and manage the current work with a focus on discipleship, involvement in services and welcome to new children and their families.
- Take into consideration the needs of children from a range of backgrounds, including those with limited English and those with neurodiverse needs.

3) Build relationships within the parish:

- Take a key role at our weekly 'King's Kids' stay and play; get involved in our Playgroup to build on existing relationships with local families and creatively explore ways we can further these connections.
- Spend time in the local community to proactively build relationships with local schools and other groups.
- Create and lead a plan to build new relationships, outreach, social action and discipleship with local families in our parish.

Person Specification:

Essential:

- Committed and enthusiastic follower of Jesus.
- Passionate for both discipleship and mission - who longs to see what God is doing and to join in.
- Experience of working with children and families, able to build positive relationships with children of different ages and backgrounds, as well as their parents.
- Approachable to children and adults, acting as a role model.
- Sensitive listener and able to handle confidential matters.
- Experience of working as part of a team.
- Organised, able to work on your own initiative and manage your own workload.
- Good communication skills both in person, online and through email.

Desirable:

- Relevant qualification in teaching or church and children's ministry.
- Experience leading volunteers.
- Experience planning and running events and holiday clubs
- Willingness to support our young people's ministry

Please note:

- This role holds a Genuine Occupational Requirement for an active and committed Christian faith.
- St Matthew's Church 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. The post is subject to acceptable pre-employment checks including an enhanced DBS check.
- The role is subject to an initial 3 month probation period.

If you think God is calling you to this role, please apply using the application form. If you'd like to discuss it further, please contact Juliet Dellow: curate@stmatthews-bristol.org.uk