

Job Description: Children's Pastor

Responsible to: Church wardens (line manager)

Key Objective: To see the children of, and connected with St Mark's, fulfilling our vision to 'Live and Share the Love of Jesus' in their own lives by:

- Bringing their best to God in worship,
- Nurturing each other as disciples and
- Being the good news for Kensal Rise and beyond.

Background

The role of Children's Pastor is an exciting opportunity to serve the children of Kensal Rise while developing in Christian understanding and giftings. Working part time as a full member of our energetic staff team, you will have the benefit of close support and training while taking on genuine responsibility in the Church's ministry and mission.

The Role

St Mark's has a flourishing children's ministry with numerous activities in Sunday services. There is a growing and increasingly motivated volunteer team that comes alongside the children as they have fun, make friends and grow in their life of worship, discipleship and mission. The role brings together elements of training and coordination. The Children's Pastor will benefit from a variety of training opportunities within and outside of the church.

Key Elements of Role

- To work with the staff team and wider church leadership to envision, nurture and equip the children as followers of Jesus.
- To play a full part in the life of St Mark's contributing as a spiritual leader in the community.
- To contribute fully to the life of the staff team, encouraging and supporting other members practically.

Main responsibilities

- Develop the curriculum, which is fun, engaging, bible-based, and embodying our vision, so that it becomes the highlight of every Child's week
 - Encourage and resource families to create a culture of discipleship at home
 - Lead or be present in each group (Creche, Explorers, Discoverers once per half-term)
 - To ensure that pastoral care and support is available to children and their families in the church and act as a pastoral point of contact for children and parents
 - To work closely with our Youth Pastor, as part of our wider ministry to families, encouraging and equipping them to live out their faith at home
 - To play an active role in the life of the staff team, working together on joint initiatives as appropriate.
 - To promote and develop the integration of children into church services (including all age services) and wider church life, in partnership with other members of staff and ministry leaders.
 - Recruit, support, lead and train volunteers, growing strong teams of leaders within the ministry
 - To engage in outreach work in our schools and community and work with other churches, local schools and other local organisations relevant to the church
 - Ensure that resources are planned, ordered and available
 - To work with our church's Safeguarding Officer to ensure that safeguarding and safer recruitment procedures are in place for the children's ministry, and all concerns are responded to promptly and well.
 - Administration of attendance registers on our church database
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- Parent and Toddlers / Incredibles
 - Where time allows, support the volunteer teams practically
 - Safeguarding - supporting safeguarding officer in ensuring appropriate DBS checks made
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- All Age Services
 - Coordination of regular meetings to review services against our vision
 - Motivate and encourage All Age service team

- Contribution to the leading of these services

- Special events
 - Coordinate and plan annual program of children's events including:
 - Church Weekend Away
 - Light Party – Oct
 - Christmas Services (either Christingle or Nativity)
 - Pancake Party – Feb

- Local Schools
 - Coordinate trips to church for worship and to explain the Christian faith to children
 - Support the church's vision to develop our relationship with local schools
 - Coordinate special events where required

Faith requirements	
There is a genuine requirement for the post holder to be a Christian	E
A mature disciple of Jesus Christ, committed to continually growing in your relationship with him through the study of Scripture, prayer and a dependence on the Holy Spirit	E
Passionate about seeing children become disciples of Jesus Christ	E
Able to communicate godly examples of Christian discipleship to children	E
Evangelical in theology and able to commit fully to the vision of St Mark's	D
Training and Qualification	
Willingness to develop your ministry skills through further training, conferences and an openness to feedback from others. (The church would support you in this).	E
Relevant training (formal or informal) in understanding and teaching the Bible	D
Previous training in Safeguarding, including safer recruitment	D
Educated to degree level	D
Formal Theological, children's ministry training or children's worker qualification	D
Experience	
Experience of working with and teaching children in a church context	E
Experience of successfully leading a range of events and initiatives for children	E
Experience of working with children in a church context or educational setting	E
Experience of working with children outside a church context, either in a teaching or pastoral role	D

Knowledge and Understanding	
An understanding of effective children's ministry and mission	E
An understanding of safeguarding in a church context	E
An understanding of potential challenges and issues faced by children and their families within the local community	E
Knowledge of special educational needs, sensory impairment	D
Skills and Abilities	
Ability to establish and develop strong, healthy relationships with children from both churched and un-churched backgrounds	E
Gifted at teaching the Bible to children, able to communicate clearly and creatively and lead high quality and fun sessions	E
Ability to relate to parents/carers and families from a variety of backgrounds	E
Ability to build, lead, encourage and motivate teams of volunteers	E
Ability to plan ahead and various groups of children effectively	E
Self-motivated and ready to take the initiative in ministry	E
Good organisational, time management and administrative skills	E
Ability to manage your own time and others effectively within your flexible working hours	E
Good IT skills including Word, Excel, Powerpoint	E
Proficiency in the appropriate and proper use of social media and websites to engage with families and to communicate more widely	D
Ability to use specialist software e.g. for video or sound editing, publishing or designing	D
A special skill or interest which you can use in the role e.g. music, sport, art or drama	D
Work related personal qualities	
Fun, enthusiastic, warm, patient and pro-active	E
A willingness to receive feedback and learn from others	E
Ability to work under pressure and independently	E
Other Work Requirements	
Suitability to work with children and young people. This role is subject to an Enhanced DBS check with Barred List and a comprehensive safer recruitment process.	E
Ability to work evenings and weekends as a routine part of the role.	E
Willingness to live in Kensal Rise or the surrounding area and be a full part of church life.	E
Full Clean Driving Licence	D