

# Christ Church, Reading

Christchurch Road, Reading

[www.christchurchreading.org.uk](http://www.christchurchreading.org.uk)

## **JOB DESCRIPTION for the role of CHILDREN'S WORKER**

### **Role title:**

Children's Worker

### **Person Profile:**

Christ Church in Reading is a diverse church, worshipping in an inclusive, liberal catholic tradition with a strong musical heritage. Having recently gained both a new vicar and curate, the church is looking to further strengthen its ministry team by appointing a dedicated children's worker. The successful candidate will work closely with the clergy and lay volunteers to develop children's ministry and strengthen the service that the church provides to families. The children's worker will also work with the staff and families at New Christ Church School to increase the links between the church and school communities.

Christ Church is looking for a confident self-starter with a lively Christian faith who is passionate about working with children, young people and their families. It is essential for candidates to have experience of working with children and families, ideally in a church context, whether paid or voluntary. Excellent communication skills are important, as is personal initiative. The Children's Worker will be expected to manage their own time and actively pursue the development of children's work in the parish. In addition, the successful candidate will be able to work well with people of all ages and backgrounds, and will be able to motivate, lead and encourage others, particularly volunteers.

### **Responsible to:**

The Children's Worker will be a key member of the church team. He/she will be employed by the Parochial Church Council and will be responsible to the vicar. Line management responsibility will be held by the vicar who will co-ordinate day-to-day supervision.

### **Specific duties and responsibilities:**

The duties and responsibilities of the post will include the following, to be developed over the duration of the post:

- Lead and develop provision for children during the main Sunday morning worship at Christ Church, including the children who are members of the choir.
- To work with the vicar and other clergy to develop Sunday worship that connects with and engages children and families, and particularly the monthly Family Service.
- To help develop the strong relationship between the Church and New Christ Church Primary School.
- To work with those running existing activities for children and families, e.g. Afternoons in the Garden and the junior choir, to encourage a wider programme of engagement with children and young people.
- To ensure all programmes and events are run in a safe and professional way with due regard to safeguarding

**Conditions of employment:**

- The normal hours of this position are 8 hours per week, for 40 weeks per year. There is an expectation that hours will be worked in school term time and the Children's Worker should be available to work on most (though not all) Sunday mornings and also some evenings during the week. The exact working hours will be agreed between the successful candidate and the vicar.
- 5 weeks paid leave will be given (in addition to the 40 weeks of employment).
- An initial period of 6 months' probation will be applied, with monthly reviews. The post will be terminable on one week's notice during the probationary period.
- The position of Children's Worker will require enhanced DBS clearance and satisfactory references.
- The salary will be £4,000 per annum / £11.11 per hour (for 8 hours per week, across 45 weeks per year) payable monthly in arrears and subject to annual review.
- This position is for a fixed term of two years, with a review at the end of the first 6 months (the probationary period) to confirm the remainder of the term. If funding is available an extension of contract beyond the first two years may be possible.

**How to apply:**

- To apply for this position, please send a cv and covering letter to the Christ Church parish office. The covering letter should be no more than two sides of A4 and should set out relevant experience and how you meet the requirements for the post mentioned in the 'person profile' above.
- Applications should be emailed to [christchurch06@btconnect.com](mailto:christchurch06@btconnect.com) or can be sent in hard copy to the Parish Office, Christ Church, Christchurch Road, RG2 7AR.
- For further information about the post or the church, please contact the parish office on 0118 9313468 or email Rev'd Dr Peter Day at [fr.peterday@virginmedia.com](mailto:fr.peterday@virginmedia.com)

***Please note that the responsibilities contained within this job description are indicative but not exhaustive. As the role develops the requirements of the post may change. The exact responsibilities of the post will be subject to review in discussion with the post holder.***