

St Peter's Church, Petersfield

Children and Families Worker

St Peter's Church is looking to employ a children and families worker.

This is an exciting opportunity for someone who is passionate about ministry to children and families to work with a committed team and volunteers to lead and build our m.

The post is initially for a 3 year period, and is for 2.5 days a week. You will be responsible to the Vicar, Rev'd Canon Will Hughes, but with freedom and support to develop the role and to initiate new ideas, ventures and activities.

The 2.5 days a week will include:

- Leading the Monday morning 'Play Together' toddler group, which runs from 9:30-11am.
- Being involved in the Sunday morning service, which runs from 9:30-11am.

The rest of the time is flexible, and could include preparing materials, communicating with families, liaising with schools, being involved in Baptism preparation, and planning and leading new activities and events.

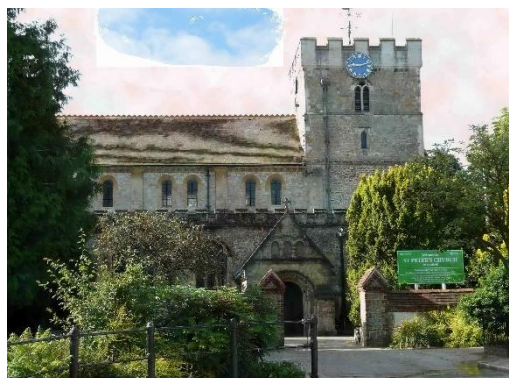
Context

Petersfield is a large market town of about 14,000. It is a vibrant community focussed around the town square, with many shops and activities, an infants, juniors and secondary school as well as 2 independent schools.

St Peter's church is at the heart of the town in terms of geography and community. Situated on the market square it is open to all and welcomes all.

St Peter's is a thriving church in the broad Anglican tradition. It has a Sunday congregation of about 100. There is a monthly children's breakfast (after which they come into the last part of the service) and a monthly all age service in which children are fully involved. The church runs a weekly Parent and Toddler group called 'Play Together', which is popular and well attended, and we long for this to lead to more families becoming part of the church.

A weekly free café in church is a key place where the community comes together. There is an active programme of discipleship and spirituality for adults. Engagement with children and families is chiefly through schools ministry, including weekly assemblies in the infants' school almost next door to the church. We host regular visits and concerts, special services for school groups and other youth organisations.



Role description

To work with the Vicar and ministry team to lead and build the ministry to children and families in Petersfield. This will include:

- To lead the St Peter's 'Play Together' parent and toddler group, incorporating a singing session, and building relationships with parents and carers.
- To build bridges between the 'Play Together' group and the life of the church.
- To provide resources for children's activities in our Sunday worship, and to actively encourage parents to come to church, and to explore baptism for their children.
- To help the ministry team to make Sunday worship inclusive and enjoyable for children and families.
- To visit and build connections with the families who come to church, and encourage them in their faith.
- To lead, encourage and build our committed volunteer teams in the play group and Junior Church, and to develop these ministries.
- With the ministry team, to plan and deliver special events throughout the year.
- There is also the possibility of sharing with the ministry team in leading school assemblies and building relationships with our primary and infants' schools.

There is a strong expectation with regard to Health and Safety, and to Safeguarding.

Health & Safety

To adhere to the Parish Health and Safety policy and procedure as well as any other related laws and to do all that is reasonable to promote care and safety in the fulfilment of the role and in daily working life.

Safeguarding

To understand, champion and implement a safeguarding culture across all areas of church life, and to adhere to the Parish and Diocesan Safeguarding policies and procedures as well as any other related laws and to do all that is reasonable to promote care and safety in the fulfilment of the role and in daily working life for all who may be vulnerable. This includes a responsibility to remain up to date with your own safeguarding training at the level appropriate to the role.

Person Specification

Experience

- An understanding of the Christian faith, and an ability to communicate it
- Sympathy with the goals and vision of the Church of England
- Leading and planning activities that effectively engage children and families
- Creating, developing and growing new ministries and events that engage children and families

Knowledge and Personal Characteristics

- A desire to grow disciples and see children and families grow in faith
- Strong personal ethics and integrity

- Sensitivity, empathy and ability to listen to others
- Creative approach to work with the ability to inspire creativity in others
- Resilient, with a high level of determination & persistence
- Commitment to safeguarding and to building a safe culture for children and vulnerable adults

Skills

- Ability to communicate in a relevant and engaging way for children and families
- Comfortable leading and working with volunteers
- A team player
- Friendly and approachable and an ability to appropriately build relationships with children and their families
- Strong organisational & administration skills
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, email, internet and social media
- Ability to manage a simple budget
- Strong communication & interpersonal skills (written & verbal)

There is an Occupational Requirement that the post-holder is a Christian. An enhanced DBS disclosure will be required. The Rehabilitation of Offenders Act does not apply in this instance.

Key relationships

The Vicar, who line manages every aspect of this post
 Parish office team, who provide admin support
 Volunteers including the Play Together and Junior Church teams
 School head teachers and points of contact
 Community children's and families organisations

For more information please see our website www.stpeterspetersfield.org and our facebook <https://www.facebook.com/StPetersChurchPetersfield/>

Pay and hours

This post is for 18 hours a week for a three year period. The pattern of working will be planned with the line manager and will include Monday mornings (Play Together) and Sunday mornings (Main parish service). There is a 3 month probationary period.

The salary is £14,040 a year, or £24,080FTE. Holiday allowance is 5 weeks (pro rata).

We are willing to explore flexible working. There is also the opportunity to negotiate the number of hours.

For a conversation about this post, please call Rev'd Will Hughes on 01730260464. To apply please use the application form at: <https://stpeterspetersfield.org.uk/>

Applications must be submitted by 9th June 2025

Interviews will be on 16th June 2025