

Children and families worker - Job Description

Title:	Children and families worker
Employer:	All Saints Hale Barns with Ringway PCC
Line Manager:	The Rev'd Clair Jaquiss (Vicar)
Work Base:	All Saints Office
Work Area:	Hale Barns (Cheshire)
Hours (term & vacations):	Part Time. 20 hrs per week (including Sunday duties) Some flexibility possible; especially out of term-time. There will be a 6 month probation period.
Remuneration:	£17,800 - £20,600 pa (pro rata dependent on experience)
Training:	On-going support for appropriate training and development.
Holidays:	25 days pa (pro rata) to be taken in school holidays unless otherwise agreed + 8 Bank Holidays

Aims and Objectives - Overview:

To be a collaborative leader and team worker inspiring our able volunteers engaging with early years and primary aged children. To build on our relationships with local schools. To develop this work by engaging with families and younger and older brothers and sisters.

Specific Duties and Responsibilities

To support and develop all aspects of All Saints' work with children from birth to year 6 including:

1. Working with and alongside our experienced teams teaching children in Little Saints (Sunday School) and running Messy Church, with a view to growing that area of ministry including:
 - Leading elements of special services involving all age groups, but particularly children and families
 - Supporting teaching staff in RE lessons, assemblies and visits to the church building
2. Developing the practice of Godly Play as part of All Saints work with children. Training will be offered.
3. Rebuild and continue to develop Tiny Saints (Parent and Toddler group)
4. Building on our good relationships with the two outstanding multi-faith primary schools in the parish
5. To increase and develop the church's online presence connecting with parents
6. To assist with christening preparation with families
7. To suggest and implement new ideas within the church, local community and primary schools where appropriate
8. To implement and promote All Saints' policy on Safeguarding, alongside the Safeguarding Officer.

The Children and Families Worker will be expected to **worship** regularly at All Saints throughout the term of the appointment.

There are **opportunities** for the post-holder to use other gifts that they may have in the life of the church.

In addition to **support** provided by the church, extra support is available from the Diocesan Youth, Children & Families Missioner and network.

Person Specification

We are looking for someone who is:

- A Christian who is sympathetic to our liberal catholic spirituality, focused on the Eucharist
- Willing to work with and build relationships sensitively in Hale Barns multi-faith community
- Experienced if possible in church-based children and families work
- A leader who can inspire and grow a voluntary team, sharing responsibility effectively
- Able to work both as part of a team and under their own initiative, whilst being responsible and responsive to supervision
- Understanding of, and committed to, the needs of children and families
- The kind of person who builds networks so people feel that they belong to the whole church
- Good with social media, can use the web creatively and who can teach others
- Creative and innovative
- Realistic, practical and resilient with a sense of humour
- Preferably a holder of relevant qualifications in youth or schools work
- If possible, a holder of a full driving licence.

There is an Occupational Requirement (OR) that the post-holder is a Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

We take safeguarding seriously at All Saints. This appointment is also conditional upon receiving a satisfactory enhanced DBS Disclosure.

Church and context

www.allsaintshalebarns.org

Location

All Saints Parish Church (Church of England) is in the centre of Hale Barns village on Hale Road (A538). This is a busy commuter route, with Altrincham to the west and Wilmslow to the east. We're not far from Manchester Airport.

Hale Barns is a middle-class commuter area, though its history as a rural farming community is rooted in local memory. There is a very low rate of unemployment in the area. Many move here because of the quality of the schools.

People

The population of the parish is 6,035 with about 24% aged over 65. The 2011 census for Hale Barns area shows about 85% of the population as white, with the next largest group being non-Chinese Asian at 9%.

The latest census shows 60% of residents describe themselves as Christian, with significant Jewish (10%) and Muslim groups (10%), a small number of Hindu and other faiths, and others of no stated religion. There is a Roman Catholic Church, the Hale Unitarian Chapel,

two synagogues, the Seventh Day Adventists' Centre, and a Plymouth Brethren Church. Close by there is also an Islamic cultural centre.

There are two primary schools, Elmridge Primary, an academy, and Wellgreen School, both with about 250 pupils and receiving excellent Ofsted reports. Pupils and teachers from both have attended All Saints' as part of their religious education and for carol services.

Church Building

All Saints' Church was built in 1967, though there is a history of Christian presence in the area for at least 500 years. The building is light, modern, well maintained and welcoming. The church was re-ordered in 2009, giving a flexible space for worship and community events (Messy Church, school assemblies, art exhibitions and concerts). We have a good sound system and the facilities to project images for worship.

The **church hall** has a stage and good kitchen facilities with a smaller coffee lounge used for refreshments after church services and for smaller community events.

Spirituality

The churchmanship at All Saints' is liberal catholic. Vestments are worn at all services and we have trained acolytes and servers. We have an Assistant Priest and lay people who are actively involved in worship and home groups. Members of the congregation read, lead prayers and administer at the Eucharist.

Children - Age 3 to 13: Little Saints

This is the All Saints Sunday School, with eight to ten children on a regular basis. It is run by a group of dedicated teachers and helpers who work on a rota with each group leading for a month at a time. The teaching material we use is published by Roots and follows the Lectionary.

Messy Church

Messy Church was introduced a few years ago. It is run once every two or three months, on a Saturday afternoon, with activities, worship, and a teatime meal. The average attendance is between 20 and 30 children, plus parents/carers. A good core of people comes regularly.

Other Christians and other faiths

The church has developed strong ties with neighbouring churches (in the past with Holy Angels Roman Catholic Church, and The Vine (Hale Methodist Church)) and many members of other faiths in Hale Barns. We maintain good relations with the rabbis and the two synagogues, Sephardic and Ashkenazy, as well as with members of the Islamic Centre at Grove Lane, Hale. We value this aspect of our work highly.

All Saints wants to grow and build in numbers, to deepen in faith and to be generous in its service of God and the community and especially among the young people. There is an

ongoing plan to encourage the congregation to make a positive statement about being inclusive (in terms of sexual orientation and people with different abilities).

How to Apply

If you would like to apply for this post, then please send a current CV with a covering letter explaining your interest in the job to:

The Rev'd Clair Jaquiss at clairjq@aol.com and office@allsaintshalebarns.org

or write to

All Saints Church Office (Children and Families worker)
Hale Road
Hale Barns,
Cheshire WA15 8SP

Please also include details of 2 people who will give references for you – name, address, phone number and email address. At least one of the two should be a leader in a church (for example a minister, youth leader, churchwarden etc.)

If you'd like to talk to us about the role, then you can give us a call on 0161 980 3234 (Tues – Thurs 9 till 1).

We need to receive your application by xxxxxxxxxxxx

Interviews will be held in the week beginning xxxxxxxxxxxx