

Children and Family Minister

Role Description & Person Specification



Loddon Reach Benefice, Reading, Berkshire

The churches of Beech Hill, Shinfield, Spencers Wood
& Swallowfield serving the community

“To know Christ and make Him known through a
caring, growing and sustainable Christian presence
in our community.”

Imagine a Church that creates spaces for young people and families to be actively involved and growing spiritually

Imagine a Church where children, young people and adults discover life with Jesus and the love of God for each and every person

Imagine a Church where we can work together to be church families that support and nurture the faith of children, young people and their parents

Imagine having the opportunity to be stretched and developed in your own faith while working with children and young people

Imagine working in churches which are open to growing and which seek to be God's transforming presence in their communities and beyond.



A close-up photograph of a child's hand holding a red pencil with white polka dots. The hand is positioned over a worksheet that features a grid with numbers (12, 15, 18, 21, 24) and some drawings. In the background, several other colored pencils (green, purple, blue, orange) are scattered on a wooden surface. The lighting is warm and focused on the hand and pencil.

Children and Family Minister

The purpose of this role is to develop and grow the Children and Families ministry in the Benefice that has an emphasis on helping people inside and outside the church to encounter Jesus through the Holy Spirit and to become disciples.

The job will partly be what you make it, but it will include:

- ☀ Developing and growing a children's ministry that enables young people to encounter Jesus.



- ☀ A Pioneering Role: reaching out to children, young people and families who don't yet know Jesus by developing our links with schools and our other community outreach events.

- ☀ Ensuring that the children's ministry is in line with the vision of the Benefice.



- ☀ Helping children, young people and their families in their discipleship, faith and expectancy that God can use them in the 'church of today'.

- ☀ Developing and engaging with a team of volunteers to work with our young people.

- ☀ Building a strong sense of community amongst young people and families that is welcoming.



- ☀ Working with a Line Manager, the Team Rector, who has over 9 years' experience of supervising children and youth workers.

- ☀ Connecting with the area network of children and youth ministers for support, encouragement and mentoring.



We recognise that God has demonstrated His love for everyone by sending His Son, Jesus, and we are called to share God's love through the power of the Holy Spirit working in and through us.



Our Vision

is to be God's transforming presence for the communities in which we live and beyond



Our Calling

is to know Christ and make Him known through a caring, sustainable and growing Christian presence in our Community.

The Right Candidate will...

...be a committed Christian with a good knowledge of the Bible, an awareness of maintaining their own spiritual growth and an enthusiasm to pass on their faith and love of Jesus by teaching and example. There is a Genuine Occupational Requirement (GOR) that the holder of this post is a practising Christian

...have a real love of working with children and proven experience of teaching and nurturing children and young people in the Christian Faith

...have experience in setting up events suitable for families and children, showing imagination and creativity to help adults and children to become pilgrims along the road of faith with all members of our congregations

...be able to work as part of a team, working alongside clergy and senior members of the congregations of all four churches to devise and plan ways of outreach

Person Specification



The Right Candidate will...

...have proven experience in recruiting, enthusing and developing volunteers to establish meaningful and lasting activities which will promote the work with children and families within the parishes

...have an ability to listen and get alongside adults and children of all ages and backgrounds.

...be a self-starter with a high degree of personal initiative who can own the vision for our children and families work and develop it, recruit and lead a volunteer team, and balance their workload with time to stop, reflect, pray and plan

...be able to forge close contacts and work well with the wider church team, local organisations, schools, other church children and family Ministers

...be willing to engage fully in the life of the benefice, is flexible and willing to respond to any perceived needs.

Person Specification



The right candidate MUST

have an understanding and experience of the work of the Holy Spirit in and through children and young people

have a driving license and their own transport

be a strong committed Christian of good character, who is prayerful and models the renewing work of the Holy Spirit

Have strong communication skills and an ability to think strategically

have experience of leading children and family work, planning exciting and creative teaching, programmes and events

have experience of leading children and young people to faith and helping them to grow as disciples

schedule and manage their workload well, and those of others to optimal capacity

be a good team player, able to build a strong network both within and outside the churches of the Benefice

be able to provide clearly documented information to support all their work

possess strong IT skills and experience of using Microsoft Word, Excel, Instagram and other social media platforms



The right candidate may have:

- ✘ A recognised qualification in children or youth ministry
- ✘ Experience of working in a voluntary organization
- ✘ Understanding of the operation of the Church of England at a local level



Other Responsibilities

The scope of the role will further require you to be able to:

- safely recruit, train and equip volunteers
- work with the Benefice Safeguarding Lead and ensure that the Benefice children and family ministry implements and follows our safeguarding policies and procedures
- follow and implement all the Benefice and PCC policies including legal requirements such as Data Protection and ensure Risk Assessments are prepared
- manage a ministry budget accurately and efficiently
- work with wider ministries of the church to ensure effective co-ordination
- be willing to step outside their current work boundaries to attend, participate and help with church wide events.



- Formal qualifications may not be necessary, but the candidate should have a good level of education and be able to communicate with individuals and larger groups.
- Should be willing to work flexible hours in agreement with their line manager and be able to manage their own time schedule efficiently.
- Safeguarding: understand and follow the Safeguarding standards of the Diocese and Benefice and complete the required training. This post is subject to enhanced disclosure from DBS.
- GDPR: understand and follow GDPR requirements for local church life.

The Package:



Role is 40 hours a week, with a requirement to work on Sunday mornings and other hours outside of 'core' office hours.



Salary is £34,000 per annum



Three-year contract with potential for extension

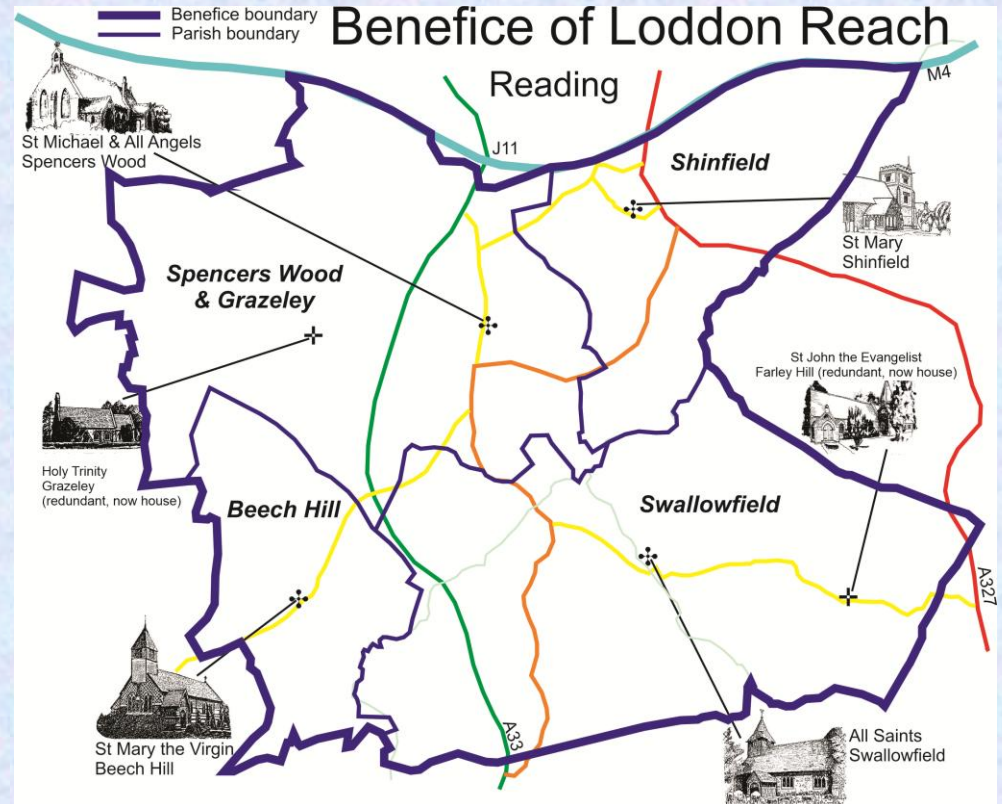


Expenses of office and travel expenses will be reimbursed

Where are we?

Loddon Reach is a group of four churches in Shinfield, Swallowfield, Spencers Wood and Beech Hill which are a part of the Church of England.

We are based just south of Junction 11 of the M4, in the Berkshire countryside, but just 5 miles from the centre of Reading.





If this challenge appeals to you,
we would love to hear from you!

For an informal discussion about the
role, please contact Revd Nigel Beer on
rev.beer@loddonreach.org or the
Benefice Office on 0118 988 5923

For full details and an application form,
please visit www.loddonreach.org.uk

The deadline for applications is 18th April