

Children's and Youth Minister

Application Pack



We seek to appoint a Children's and Youth Minister to lead and grow our children's and youth ministry and to engage with mission to children, young people and families in our local community.

Where are we?

Great St Mary's with St Michael (Michaelhouse) is situated at the heart of the city of Cambridge between the Market Square and King's Parade. The City Guildhall is nearby. Our foundation dates back to the 13th century and the church with its tower is a well-known Cambridge landmark. Michaelhouse is 200 metres north of Great St Mary's.

Who are we?

As a community of prayer, worship, welcome and witness Great St Mary's Church seeks to promote the Gospel of Christ in Cambridge and in the wider world. We strive to be an inclusive and growing church, bound together by faith, love and mutual support, respecting and advocating for all people and our environment. Our doors are open seven days a week for prayer and worship, and to the many tourists and visitors who come into the church. The Church is regularly used for university, civic and special services. The 13th century Church of St Michael, now known as Michaelhouse, home to a flourishing café, hosts a range of events and activities. The chancel and chapel are regularly used for informal worship and prayer for all ages.

Children, families and young people are an important and growing part of our church life. Many are members of the choirs or families who come for baptism or worship. The work is led by a lay Children's and Youth Minister and a creche worker. An experienced group of volunteers ensures adequate staffing and care. Other informal activities such as pizza evenings are organised on an ad hoc basis. Below, we describe our regular activities with children, young people and families at present.



On Sunday mornings Children's Church is held at Michaelhouse at 10am on Sunday mornings and is open to all children between the ages of 5 - 11. This service helps children to learn, engage and respond to the Word of God in fun, creative and accessible ways to challenge and encourage them in developing a life of prayer and worship. Parents and carers are welcome to stay with their children or they can be dropped off before the start of the service and walked back to the main service at GSM by volunteers to join together for the Eucharist.

We average 18 children at Children's Church (10 aged 5-14 and 8 0-5's).



Crèche ministry is led by a part-time creche worker. All children from birth are welcome to the Sunday morning crèche service in Michaelhouse. We follow an age-appropriate liturgy of the Word, including songs, hand-motions, Bible-reading and storytelling, and loads of wiggles. At least one parent/caregiver is requested to stay with their child(ren). After the prayers we join the service in Great St. Mary's for the liturgy of the sacrament.



The Ark is a Eucharist service for babies, toddlers, parents and carers takes place in Michaelhouse during term time. The order of service is adapted to encourage the participation of little children at every part of the liturgy including ringing hand bells, shakers, ribbons, action songs, interactive prayers and storytelling. Holy Communion is administered by a member of Clergy and Children of all ages who have been baptised are welcome to receive the sacrament. Tea, coffee and toys are served after the service.

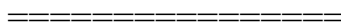
We regularly have at least 10 children aged 0-5 each week.

Chat-Play-Sing is a play group on Thursday mornings for babies and toddlers aged 0-5. We start each week with free play, toys, puzzles, building blocks and refreshments and healthy snacks are available. For those feeling creative, we have a craft table where we always have colouring crayons, pens and play dough. Occasionally we have special crafts to mark key events in the calendar such as Christmas and world book day. We then read a story together and finish by singing out favourite nursery rhymes with actions. We usually have around 7-10 children each week aged between 0-4.

Ignite Youth Group, a fairly new initiative, meets fortnightly in Michaelhouse after evensong and is for 10-16 year olds. We eat together, play games and have discussions about faith, the Bible and important issues facing young people today. We usually have around 6-8 young people at each session, mainly from the boys and girls choirs and hope this will grow as it becomes more established.

All Age Services happen at least once a term, with a junior choir and our boys and girls choirs leading the singing. Children from children's church are invited to participate in leading parts of the service such as readings and prayers. These services are usually very well attended and are an important part of our church's mission and identity.

Seasonal events and services happen at key moments in the church calendar such as Christmas, Lent and Easter where we seek to share the good news of Jesus with children and families. At Christmas we have the Crib service on Christmas eve that is attended by over 500 people each year. To prepare for Lent we organise a pancake party on Shrove Tuesday and in Holy Week, we decorate the Easter Garden with flowers and make large crafts to celebrate the risen Christ.



Children's and Youth Minister

Appointment - fixed term 3-year

Employer - Great St Mary's, The University Church Cambridge

Reports to - The Children's and Youth Minister is line managed by a member of the clergy team, accountable to the PCC as his or her employer, They participate in ministry team meetings, and work in close co-operation with other staff, the church wardens, and volunteers.

Working Hours - 23 hours a week

Key responsibilities and requirements for this role are set out below. You may be required to perform further duties that are related to your core role, in addition to those specified below.

Key Focus of Role

- Leading and growing our children's and youth ministry (CYP) and overseeing the volunteers who lead activities

Specific Areas of Responsibility

- Develop and direct our children's and youth ministry
 - ⇒ Oversee and organise the running of our Sunday morning provision at Michaelhouse
 - ⇒ Proactively identify areas for growth and ministry within the parish
 - ⇒ Create All Age worship in collaboration with the clergy and music department.
- Recruit, enable and resource volunteers involved in the CYP at Great St Mary's
 - ⇒ Support the recruitment of new team members and work with our Safeguarding Officer to ensure that we comply with Diocesan Safeguarding Policies and Practice.
 - ⇒ Develop, nurture and provide pastoral support to volunteer leaders of our children's and youth ministry activities.
- To engage with mission to children, young people and families in our local community
 - ⇒ Foster strong networks and relationships with staff at our local schools, especially Park Street Primary School.
 - ⇒ Identify and oversee outreach events for children and young people, and participate in and support Diocesan CYP activities and events.
- Play an active role in the ministry team and decision making, supporting the overall vision and values of GSM by participating in the leadership of the church through staff and PCC meetings, reporting on CYP ministries.

Person Specification

The successful candidate will be able to demonstrate:

- A committed and mature Christian faith
- A passion for teaching the Christian faith to children and young people
- The energy and ability to inspire and enthuse young people, children, and adults

- Proven 'hands on' leadership skills and experience
- Good interpersonal, organisational, and communication skills
- The ability to be generous in empowering and equipping others to lead
- Significant experience in CYP roles
- Flexibility and adaptability
- The ability to take initiative within a collaborative environment

The following are desirable:

- Understanding and experience of the Anglican context and liturgical worship
- Experience in teaching, or leading worship in a local church context
- Previous supervisory experience would be advantageous
- Good administrative skills
- First Aid Qualifications

The following will be required:

- Appointment will be subject to **a confidential personal statement and enhanced DBS**

Summary of main Terms and Conditions of Employment

Contract

- Comprehensive Terms and Conditions of the contract of employment will be issued, including the items below and other details such as procedures for sickness absence, termination, grievance and disciplinary.

Start Date

- Monday 3 June, or as soon as giving appropriate notice allows. There will be a six-month probationary period.

Hours

- Flexible working hours up to 23 per week to be agreed with employer

Salary

- £17,645 p.a. for 23 hours/week (pro rata of £28,000)

Expenses

- On the job expenses are paid including the use of your own car and bike

Holidays

- A holiday entitlement of 28 working days pro rata, plus public holidays which fall on days normally worked. This includes no more than 6 Sundays (unless agreed with the line manager) per year.

See <https://www.greatstmarys.org/jobs> for more information and an application form.

Application Details

Please apply by e-mail to: WardenM@gsm.cam.ac.uk enclosing a CV, covering letter, application form and details of two referees with an indication of whether these can be taken up immediately.

Closing date: 12 noon on Monday 15 April

Interviews will be held on 23 April