

Children & Families Outreach Worker

St Philip's Church, West Howe

Overview

West Howe is a large housing estate in Bournemouth, and St Philip's has been at the heart of the community since 1953, a place of worship, open doors, genuine welcome and a deep love for children, young people and families. We're a church woven into the life of the estate, committed to sharing the love of Jesus and helping people of all ages find belonging and grow in faith.

Investing in the next generation and being a place for families to discover faith and grow together is in our DNA and we've been praying, asking God to show us the next steps for our children and families ministry. We're excited that those prayers have led us to a new opportunity to relaunch this vital area of ministry and we're looking for a Children and Families Outreach Worker to join us at this exciting point in our journey.

This role is part of our commitment to growing a younger and more intergenerational church and reimagining how we connect with children and families in West Howe to share the love of Jesus. We're looking for someone who is Spirit-led and prayerful, passionate about Jesus and His church, excited about reaching those on the fringes, and who loves building genuine relationships with children, families and the wider community.

Working with our Rector and a team of volunteers, you'll have the opportunity to pioneer and grow this ministry, listening, praying and looking for where God is opening doors. With two schools on the estate, a strong local community and many opportunities to build new relationships, this is a chance to build something new, with the support of a welcoming church community that is praying, hopeful and expectant about what God might do next.

Key Responsibilities

During the first six months, your focus will be on listening - to God, to the local community and to the church as you build relationships and discern where God is already at work. Working alongside the Rector, you'll begin connecting with local schools, organisations and families, taking the first practical steps towards developing a flourishing children and families ministry. Together, you'll share emerging priorities with the PCC as we continue to seek God's leading for the future.

1. Community & Outreach

- Work with the Rector and PCC to develop and implement a clear and energised vision for children and family ministry.
- Build positive relationships with local schools through assemblies and regular presence.

- Develop connections with local organisations to support families in the community.
- Create welcoming ways for families who don't normally attend church to connect with the church community.
- Plan and deliver creative seasonal events, especially at Christmas and Easter, that welcome children and families and encourage them to connect with the church and explore faith.

2. Programme Development

- Launch and lead a regular children's activity that encourages relationship building and faith exploration.
- Develop relaxed, welcoming events for families that strengthen community and reduce isolation.
- Support opportunities for children and families to explore Christian faith together.
- Develop and support relationships with local schools, identifying opportunities for ministry through activities such as assemblies, lessons and initiatives like Open the Book.

3. Spiritual Life & Worship

- Be a person of prayer, seeking God's vision and leading for the children and families' ministry and supporting the wider church and local community through prayer.
- Play a full part in the worshipping life of St Philip's, building relationships across the church family through regular participation in Sunday worship and key church gatherings.
- Model Christian faith through prayer, worship and everyday relationships.
- Encourage children and families to explore faith and feel part of the wider church community.

4. Volunteer Development

- Recruit, support, encourage and equip volunteers involved in children's and families' ministry.
- Help develop a sense of shared ownership and encourage new leaders.
- Foster a culture of prayer, encouragement and growth amongst volunteers.

5. Monitoring & Evaluation

- Keep track of engagement in activities and events.
- Gather feedback from families and volunteers.
- Shares stories of impact and provide reports for the PCC and funders as required.

6. Safeguarding & Best Practice

- Follow all Church of England and Diocese of Salisbury safeguarding policies, complete required training and keep up to date with safeguarding requirements.

- Work closely with the Parish Safeguarding Officer to ensure all activities are safe, in line with safeguarding best practice and well-run.
- Respond promptly to safeguarding concerns and follow reporting procedures.
- Maintain professional boundaries and help foster a safe, transparent, and welcoming culture.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Committed Christian* active in a church and willing to engage in the worshipping life of St Philip's.	✓	
Passion for helping children and families discover the love of Jesus and grow in discipleship.	✓	
Experience working with children and/or families (church or community setting).	✓	
Connects naturally with children, families and the wider community.	✓	
Prayerful, attentive to God's direction and able to help bring that vision to life.	✓	
Confident engaging with schools and community organisations.	✓	
Self-motivated, flexible and proactive	✓	
Strong communication and organisational skills.	✓	
Creative, able to develop engaging resources.	✓	
Understanding and experience of safeguarding and safer working practices,	✓	
Experience supporting and working with volunteers.	✓	
Relevant training in children's, youth, family or community work.		✓
Experience working with schools.		✓
Background in community development or pioneering ministry.		✓

Supervision & Support

The Children & Families Minister will be supported and line managed by the Rector, with regular opportunities for supervision, prayer and reflection. The role will also involve working closely with the PCC, volunteers and the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

What We Offer

- A welcoming and faith filled church community where you will be encouraged, prayed for and valued as part of the team.
- The chance to make a real difference in the lives of local children and families.
- Freedom to develop a creative and pioneering ministry.
- A supportive team of leaders and volunteers.
- Opportunities for training and development.
- Connection with wider children's and families' ministry networks, including the New Wine networks.
- Support from a church that is committed to seeing children and families grow in faith and relationship with Jesus and has a genuine passion for transforming lives in our community.

Safeguarding

St. Philip's PCC are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders are expected to share this commitment. All appointments to roles undertaking regulated activity are subject to pre appointment checks, including references and a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Check.

Terms & Conditions

Employer	St. Philip's, West Howe Parochial Church Council
Responsible to	St. Philip's Rector
Job Title	Children & Families Minister*
Salary	£25,025 per annum pro rata (£10,010 per annum)
Hours of Work	This is a part-time role of 14 hours per week. The post is for a fixed term contract for 3 years (subject to funding). Working hours will be agreed with the Rector and may include: Sundays, some evenings, occasional weekends. Flexibility will be required to support church and community activities.

Pension	The PCC operates a contributory pension scheme in line with government recommendations. Further details will be provided at the commencement of your employment.
Holiday entitlement	5.6 weeks paid holiday per year (including bank holidays)

Genuine Occupational Requirement

* This role carries a Genuine Occupational Requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for the post holder to be a practising Christian, as the role includes leading faith-based activities, prayer and Christian teaching.

Application Process

For an informal conversation about the role please contact Reverend Christine Brooks on 02102 581135 or email revcbrooks@stphilipswesthowe.co.uk

For an application form please contact Reverend Christine Brooks on revcbrooks@stphiipswesthowe.co.uk

Closing Date for applications: 30th September 2026

Interviews to be held on: 16th October 2026