

# ST MARY'S

calling Islington home

## Children and Families Minister

<b>JOB TITLE</b>	Children and Families Minister
<b>REPORTS TO</b>	One of the clergy team
<b>WORKING WITH</b>	Clergy, congregational team, preschool team, Youth Minister
<b>SALARY</b>	£30,000 - £32,000 per annum
<b>HOURS</b>	37.5 hours per week
<b>LOCATION</b>	St Mary's Church Office, Upper Street, London, N1 2TX

We are at an exciting time in the life of St Mary's. In 2023 we launched our new mission strategy to enable our vision of Calling Islington Home as a committed, connected and caring community. More information on our new vision, values and mission strategy can be [found here](#).

Our church community is passionate about children being supported to follow Jesus and to become more like him. We currently welcome over 1500 school children to the church each year, have 25 plus children on Sundays, run a preschool and holiday play scheme, and welcome hundreds of children to our site each year for community groups. We long to seize the opportunities for meaningful and long-term ministry with children and their families.

We seek an experienced and creative leader as our Children and Families minister to enable the discipleship of children and families on Sundays and throughout the week. The Children and Families Minister will be responsible for the discipleship and evangelism pathways for children, play an important part in our schools ministry, and engage with our preschool and holiday play scheme.

[www.stmaryislington.org](http://www.stmaryislington.org)

# Children and Families Minister

## What we can offer you

- A strong and growing children's ministry
- Excellent existing connections into our local community through our preschool
- An established Holiday Playscheme
- Great relationships with our local schools and a thriving schools ministry
- A committed group of Sunday volunteers
- Working as part of a dynamic and supportive team
- Working alongside a full time Youth Minister
- A healthy budget to support the children's work
- Good training and development opportunities

## Main responsibilities

### 1. Discipleship

- Deliver and grow our Sunday children's work, including coordinating the under 11s Sunday groups; ensuring that there is targeted and appropriate provision for under 11s every Sunday, whether in separate groups or as part of all-age services
- Support and develop our missional and discipleship pathways for children and families;
- Lead, plan and preach at services as agreed with the clergy team
- Develop our existing children and families outreach programme
- Build relationships with baptism families for whole life discipleship
- Active involvement in wider children's ministry networks

### 2. Families

- Develop a creative programme of support for families both inside and outside the church with a particular focus for families that already attend groups or events on our site. This might look like starting a babies and toddlers group or similar.
- Work with the Early Years team to provide support and faith engagement for families we are connected with through the preschool and holiday play scheme
- Provide resources for parents seeking to support their children's discipleship

### **3. School and Pre-school**

- Work with the congregational team to develop the existing links between the church, St Mary's Primary school, St Mary's preschool and other local schools
- Coordinate and regularly lead on school engagement, collective worship, visits and experiences
- Work closely with the Youth Minister on the interface between primary and youth age groups

### **4. Volunteers**

- Ensure all children's volunteers have appropriate levels of safeguarding training, have the appropriate DBS checks and understand the importance of a safe church
- Model excellent children's ministry practice and recruit, develop, pastor and train volunteer teams

### **5. General**

- Participate in meetings of the whole staff team, regular supervision meetings with line manager and St Mary's performance and development process
- Demonstrate a commitment to the principles of equal opportunities, both in relation to employment issues and service delivery, and adhere to the policies of the parochial church council
- Work constructively and generously with different team members and ministries

*This job description outlines the principal responsibilities and duties of the post holder. The above duties cannot totally encompass or define all of the tasks that may be required of the post holder. The outline duties may therefore vary from time to time which will be handled within the line management process.*

## Person Specification

We recognise that to be great at your role, there are certain characteristics that are important and others that enable a good fit within our existing team and culture.

We are looking for a creative, enthusiastic person with a vibrant and mature Christian faith rooted in prayer and a longing to see the Church grow; someone who can communicate the love of Christ to children and families and is able to release their gifts. You will be able to work well as part of a team, be adaptable and have a positive attitude. You will be able to manage your time well and feel happy leading in your area of work.

Some specific things we are looking for in any applicant:

Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● A recognisable qualification in children's work or ministry (this could be in teaching, youth work, children or nursery work) or equivalent experience</li></ul>
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Of leading volunteer teams</li><li>● Of working well as part of a team</li><li>● Of engaging with local schools</li><li>● Of church-based children's work</li><li>● Of current safeguarding legislation</li><li>● Of developing children's work in new missional settings</li><li>● Of discipleship and evangelism</li></ul>
Gifts and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● A warm and engaging personality</li><li>● Good and effective communicator</li><li>● Good IT skills</li><li>● Pastorally sensitive</li></ul>

## Safeguarding

St Mary's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders are expected to share this commitment.

You will need to attend all relevant safeguarding training and work according to our safeguarding policy.

The post is subject to a completed DBS and confidential declaration form.

There is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a Christian.

## How to Apply

To apply please fill in the application form and send to:

Imogen Erskine  
St Mary's church office  
Upper Street  
London  
N1 2TX

or by email to [imogen.erskine@stmaryislington.org](mailto:imogen.erskine@stmaryislington.org).

For a conversation about the post please contact Rev. James Hughesdon on 020 7226 3400.

Applications are being seen and interviewed once processed and successful, as we wish to appoint as soon as possible.

### **Notes:**

There is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a Christian.

The post is subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure.

We expect the successful applicant to make St Mary's their home church.