

The Lantern Church Marlow Bottom



Seeking to be Fertile Ground, a Healthy Body and a
Bright Light in Marlow Bottom and beyond.

Children's and Families Worker (20 hours per week) Job Description, Person Specification and Offer - July 2022

Purpose & Objectives -

The purpose of the appointment is to develop the outreach to and discipleship of children in Marlow Bottom and beyond.

Responsibilities -

Using the current Lantern Vision as a basis, the CFW will undertake the following main responsibilities:

- PRIMARY:

1. To lead and support the development of The Church's existing **outreach** activities to children and families within the wider Marlow Bottom community.

This will include initiatives already in place:

- i. Burford Primary School – Running a club, taking assemblies, Participating in RE lessons, reading Bible stories in Reception, hosting Carol Services at The Church.
- ii. Lantern Baby and Toddler Group (Tuesday mornings)
- iii. Marlow Bottom Pre-School (reading stories once a month)
- iv. Baden-Powell Groups (occasional visits)

There is also scope, and time built in for the development of new initiatives in line with the Church's Vision, in any of the above areas or in an entirely new project.



2. The **discipleship** of children up to school year 7 within the community of The Lantern:
 - a. Building relationships with the children and their families in The Lantern.
 - b. Being responsible for our current Children’s work on Sunday mornings. This will involve:
 - i. Creating a safe environment for children and their leaders / helpers.
 - ii. Resourcing, preparing and delivering the teaching to the Children on a Sunday morning, currently two Sundays per month
 - iii. Leading the team of volunteers as well as safer recruitment and training of new volunteers.
 - c. Participating in the worship life of The Lantern by weekly attendance at our Sunday Services.
 - d. Contributing to the development of patterns of worship appropriate for young families and children.
 - e. Partnering with Clergy and Lay Leaders to identify and develop other activities throughout the week to enable children to grow in their Christian faith.
 - f. Ensuring appropriate, encouraging and faith building cross-generational relationships within the Lantern.
 - g. Contributing to the church youth strategy development as required.

A 20 hour a week job looks like....



- SECONDARY:

3. At The Lantern we believe there is great value in residential Children's and Youth work. The CFW will be encouraged to use residential to build the faith of Children. We currently have a good relationship with CPAS Danehill and Haslemere Ventures.
4. Provide some assistance where possible at Churches Together In Marlow (CTM) initiatives including Lighthouse which provides a programme of activities for children during one week in August each year.
5. Attend occasional church meetings, as required, where matters relating to children and young people are being discussed.
6. Attend training courses as appropriate.
7. Undertake any other duties, identified by the Team Vicar as are within the post holder's capabilities and level of responsibility, in order to meet the needs of the work with children.

Location of work -

The Lantern Church and the Marlow Bottom area.



Responsible to -

The CFW will be line-managed by the Team Vicar of The Lantern Church and will be accountable to a small management group (MG) appointed by the Church Council. The responsibilities of the management group will be to:

- Encourage the CFW and be their "cheerleader" and supporter.
- Help the CFW by being a sounding board and 'troubleshooter', along with the Team Vicar, for new ideas and problems.
- Receive regular updates on the work undertaken and proposals for new activities/programmes.
- Assist the CFW in encouraging the Church to respond to new challenges and opportunities in the discipleship of children.

- Meetings will take place half termly during a probationary period and at an agreed frequency thereafter.
- Provide regular reports to the Lantern Church Council.

This post holds a genuine occupational requirement for the post holder to be a practising Christian, and be able to promote the beliefs and practices of the Lantern Church.

The Lantern is part of the 4U team, Parish of Great Marlow. The 4U Team is committed to safer recruitment. This role will include work with children and therefore is subject to the 4U safer recruitment process which will include (and may not be limited to) an enhanced DBS check in line with our **safeguarding** policies and procedures. The Lantern is also part of the Wycombe Methodist Circuit and, as such, is also subject to the Circuit safer recruitment process which will include (and may not be limited to) an enhanced DBS check in line with our **safeguarding** policies and procedures.

Person Specification –

The person we are looking for is:

- A committed follower of Jesus who is....
- Concerned for their own spiritual, emotional and physical health and so has in place good patterns of activities that help keep them healthy.
- Naturally gifted at connecting with children and passionate about seeing them grow in faith
- Someone with a track record of inspiring faith in children either in a paid or volunteer capacity.
- Able to safely recruit, inspire, train and manage volunteers in the Church
- Able to build and nurture strong relationships and appropriate boundaries with a wide group of people, including children, parents, schools and church staff
- Experienced and knowledgeable in good Safeguarding practices (training available and required by both denominations)
- Willing to become a member of The Lantern Church, Marlow Bottom.
- Ability to use social media

In addition, the following would be advantageous but not essential

- Qualifications in children's work
- Training or knowledge of Theology or Biblical Studies

What we can offer you:

- A committed, friendly and “ready for you” Lantern congregation
- The 4U-Team and High Wycombe Methodist Circuit
- The resources of not one but two national churches! Support, networking, retreat and development opportunities with Oxford Diocese
- Salary of £13500-15000 depending on experience for 20 hours a week of work
- Six weeks (inc. six Sundays) holiday a year pro rata
- Flexibility. This is a new post and we will need to find out together how best it works! That’s not to say we haven’t worked hard to make sure this package is right, we really have! But we also recognise that flexibility will be important especially in the first year of any appointment.