# FAMILIES AND COMMUNITY WORKER

## ROLE OUTLINE

### Introduction

Homelands Free Church is a caring community of mostly older folks who are passionate about Jesus and bringing folks into contact with the gospel by living out our faith within the church and the community. Through an increasing variety of events and ministries we aim to offer our friends, neighbours and community the opportunity to encounter Jesus and to begin a journey of faith and hope in the expectation that they will grow to see the love of Jesus for all of humanity.

Our church building was originally planted by a nearby Baptist Church as a hall for mission to the growing estates that were being built almost 50 years ago and continue to be expanded today. Before long, the Lord spoke to a large group from the congregation, to plant a church into the building.

There followed a long period of stability when the congregation reflected the diversity which surrounded it, but after the retirement of a previous minister, a prolonged period in pastoral vacancy, and Covid, the children and young people who had been so much part of the church have grown up, moved away and not been replaced. This does not reflect our community. The expansion of the Homelands estate continues to bring in families, who attend Chatterbox, the church's toddler group, and the Rainbow, Brownie and Guide groups which use our premises. The church also has connections into four of the local primary schools – the closest and largest of which is just two minutes' walk away, and the local secondary academy, also two minutes' walk away.

The church has a good heart for working with children, and this role is key to developing this area of church life. It is anticipated that as part of their work, the Families and Community Worker will build on our current relationships with local primary schools, provide a nurturing and creative environment to help our children grow in their faith, and help us make new connections with children across our community.

We are seeking someone with the right skills, experience, and enthusiasm to help us develop our children's ministry across the board. We want someone who will bring great people skills, creativity and energy to the role, and who will make our children, and the children of our

community, their priority.

We anticipate this role needing 25 hours a week initially and will consider all applicants that can work within these hours.

**Job Title**: Families and Community Worker
**Line Manager**: Deacons responsible for Families and Outreach

## Main purpose of the role

To enhance the already established ministries to children and families, to be part of the United Youth team of children's and youth workers who work with and in schools, to develop children's work within the Sunday services and to engage in frontline mission to those who are not in church.

## Key objectives and tasks

- Leading Sunday children's provision.
- Reviving Messy Church or developing a suitable replacement group/activity.
- Co-ordinating and developing the church's connection with local primary schools, including supporting students and staff.
- Developing groups and initiatives that will help Homelands Free Church connect with the children in our community.
- Working with the Pastor to ensure that children are integrated into the wider life of Homelands Free Church.
- Supporting and resourcing our children's work volunteers, and sourcing training and development for new volunteers.
- Praying for our children and pastorally supporting them.
- Establishing and developing relationships with the children's clubs which meet on the premises
- Regular involvement in Homelands Free Church services and meetings.

## General staff duties

- Attendance at HFC Sunday worship
- Attendance at staff meetings, planning days and training as required
- Being the point of contact for parents and dealing with enquiries as required

## Working Hours

The role is for 25 hours a week, and will include evening and weekend work, staff development and training events.

There is 5.6 weeks annual leave, including Bank and Public Holidays.

## Remuneration

The role is being offered with a pro-rata salary of £15672 to £16452, depending on skills, training and experience, for 25 hours per week. (£23,500 – £24,675 Full Time Equivalent salary)

## Key criteria

- There is a genuine occupational requirement that the post-holder is a Christian.
- Candidates should have previous experience in children's work, either as a volunteer or in a paid role.
- It is essential that the Families and Community Worker is good with people, both inside and outside the church.
- We are looking for someone who is a team player, an encourager, and someone who is committed to ongoing learning and development.
- We would hope and expect that all members of our team would have a generous and hospitable heart and would be willing to take risks and try new things.

## Applications

To apply, please send your **CV, a covering letter**, and the full contact details of **two referees** to: revsarahphillpot@gmail.com

Applications are reviewed and shortlisted on a rolling basis. We reserve the right to interview, appoint and close this advert at any time.

The role as outlined above will take effect as soon as possible and will have a 3-month probationary period.

As part of our safer recruitment policies, the successful applicant will be required to undergo an enhanced DBS check.

You will also be enrolled in the Baptist Pension Scheme.

## Information & Questions

More information about Homelands Free Church can be found on our website (www.homelandsfreechurch.org.uk) or on our Facebook page.

If you have any questions or would like to arrange to talk with our Pastor about the role, please contact Sarah Phillpot on revsarahphillpot@gmail.com or 01255 850165.




*Make your home at Homelands*