

Shirley Baptist Church Children's Ministry Lead



Job type:	Part-time (joint role)	Work hours:	20 hours
Position:	Children's Ministry Lead	Location:	Shirley, Solihull
Line Manager:	Alysen Merrill, Church Ministry Lead	Salary:	£15,000
Travel:	Limited local travel required	Holiday:	12.5 days + Bank Holidays

Job description

Role Summary

At Shirley Baptist Church (SBC), the vision for the children's ministry runs alongside the overall vision of the church: Passion for God and Compassion for people. The overall goal of the Children's Ministry Lead is to create an environment where all children and their families know God's love and are encouraged to show His love to others.

Working in partnership with parents, carers and schools, the Children's Ministry Lead will support, love and encourage all children SBC connects with. They will be responsible for the strategic development, oversight and delivery of our ministry with families and children, building and enabling vibrant volunteer teams and being able to help our families and children grow in faith and holistic development. This will be done in partnership with our current Children's Ministry Lead and working closely alongside the Church Ministry Lead as a part of the staff team. A snapshot of SBC's Children's ministry can be seen on our website - <https://www.shirleybaptist.org.uk/sbc-kids>

SBC is committed to encouraging equality and diversity as a community and this commitment underpins our team and hiring processes.

Responsibilities

The below responsibilities would be held alongside our current Children's Ministry Lead. Some aspects of the role would be held together, with other aspects being held more solely by one. The implementation of the role and who holds what aspects would be agreed together with the Church Ministry Lead.

- To explore ways of developing and growing the church's mission among families and children in the church and community, with the aim of encouraging children and adults to explore the Christian faith and to become disciples of Jesus
- To have overall responsibility for developing the existing children's programme, including pre-school activities, younger sections of Brigades, Sunday mornings for children and occasional Saturday events. This will be primarily to support, enthuse and encourage the volunteers who are involved in these activities, and develop a strong sense of teamwork in this area of church life
- To develop relationships with the families connected with the church, relating to both the children and their parents/carers, and offering pastoral support and encouragement to them
- Along with the existing team of leaders, to develop the church's involvement in the local community across all ages and find new opportunities for effective mission locally

- To help SBC develop a strategy for evangelism among families and facilitate its implementation
- To extend the links already made with some of the local primary schools and establish new links with other schools, local agencies and relevant services
- Alongside other staff team members, oversee church services which are focussed especially on children, or all age services where children are present throughout
- Able to give talks in various settings including Sunday worship from time to time
- To serve as part of the church leadership, ensuring that the work with families and children is integrated within the whole of church life

Skills, Experiences and Desired Qualifications

Essential

- Self-motivated, able to organise and prioritise time and workload
- See the benefit of line management and is accountable
- A team player who is able to work well within a team context (staff or volunteer teams)
- Able to support, develop and draw teams of volunteers together
- Ability to have fun, put children at ease, and create a safe place for them to engage and thrive
- Flexible and adaptable mindset to changing needs and plans
- Good understanding of the needs of families and children
- A good communicator with all ages
- Ability to interact with people within the church and the external community
- Pastoral skills to respond sensitively to all kinds of different situations
- Ability to engage with the unique nature of families and children - those at different stages of connection to church, children who are neurodivergent, and those from various cultures
- A person who accepts the distinctive emphases of a Baptist approach to church life, including believers' baptism and the role of church meetings.
- Able to use tact and diplomacy to exchange information and address sensitive issues
- Comfortable with the use of technology and computer systems
- An understanding of Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment within a church context as well as understanding best practice and their responsibilities within a children's ministry context.
- A general qualification level 3 (eg A Level) or equivalent

Desirable

- Valid drivers license
- At least two years' experience of children's and/or families ministry in a Christian context
- A relevant qualification in Children's ministry
- Qualifications or courses taken in areas such as: Safeguarding, First Aid, Neurodiversity understanding and awareness

Personal Attributes

- Vibrant Christian faith with a big heart for God and people
- A love and passion for families and children
- A good knowledge of the Bible and a dependency on the Holy Spirit
- A relational/pastoral heart
- Excellent people skills; able to connect with all ages
- A commitment to being a lifelong learner
- Good sense of humour and ability to have fun
- Proactive and professional attitude
- Committed to modelling Christian values in all they do

Ongoing development and role conditions

SBC is committed to providing opportunities for personal and professional development:

- Ongoing, planned reviews
- Agreed rhythms of line management with the Church Ministry Lead
- An encouragement to attend conferences, training for personal and ministry enrichment and development
- An encouragement to meet others in a similar area of ministry/agencies to be resourced and encouraged in their role as well as encouraged in any mentoring or coaching that is agreed

Safeguarding

In line with the church's safeguarding policies, the Children's Ministry Lead will need to have read and agreed procedures including SBC's Safer Recruitment policies. The Children's Ministry Lead would have set responsibilities to uphold in line with SBC's safeguarding policies.

The appointment will be conditional on the satisfactory completion of a DBS check and proof of eligibility to work within the U.K.

There would be an expectation to be involved, alongside the Church Ministry Lead, with the reviewing and upholding of policies and procedures within the area of Families and Children and safeguarding.