

Great Marsden St John the Evangelist with Nelson St Philip
(St John's Church Centre and St Philip's Centre)
following Jesus together as family

Role	Families Minister
Accountable to	St John with St Philip Parochial Church Council
Reporting to	The Vicar
Salary	£15448 per annum (£28965 FTE) A house is not provided with the post.
Contract Length	2 years, with a view to secure funding for a further 2 years
Holiday entitlement	5 weeks per annum plus Bank Holidays
Training entitlement	A £400 pa training allowance is included. The PCC may be able to grant or obtain more funds once the training needs of the post-holder are established.
Hours	20 hours a week. <i>Working times can be flexible but must include Sunday mornings and up to two evenings a week. Time off in lieu will be given for extra hours worked.</i>
Normal Place of Work	St John's Church Centre

Overall aim of this role
To grow our church through connection with and drawing in to the church family, parents, children and young people. This will be achieved through school's work, pastoral contact, involvement in children and youth ministry in church, connecting with families at St Philip's Centre and helping the Vicar with strategically overseeing and developing all that we do with children, young people and their parents. We realise the scope is wide and there is space within that to develop according to your own skills and experience and to pioneer new projects.

Our church
We are a small, loving multicultural Christian community, of all sorts of people, which is trying to follow Jesus and is growing in faith and prayer. We preach the Bible and seek to handle it with theological integrity and reliance on the Holy Spirit. We are situated in a highly deprived area. We have two church schools and many other schools in the parish. We are supported by an able Administrator (12 hours a week), an LLM who runs our toddler's group (Sticky Fingers); a Church Army Evangelist and one ALM. We have an able Messy Church team and have just started a monthly kids church. We have run a summer holiday club for many years. The Vicar and Lay Evangelist run a growing youth group that we started in 2022. Work with children and young people has been a priority for over ten years alongside

work with the poor and our Asian Christian community. There is one ordained person – the Vicar who is passionate about reaching the lost.

Our schools

We have two church schools:

Great Marsden St John's Primary Academy where the Vicar does collective worship once a week and the occasional input to the RE curriculum. This is our primary mission field and there is much potential.

St Philip's CE Primary Nelson – a predominantly Muslim Asian with a fantastic ethos. Some of our church members work there. The Vicar does worship several times a term and is Vice Chair of Governors.

There are three other community primary schools, an RC primary school, a secondary school, a special needs secondary and a college in the parish. The Vicar occasionally gets involved in RE in two of the community primaries.

We are looking for someone who

- is a committed and mature Christian, who loves Jesus, prays expectantly and is growing in their relationship with Jesus.
- uses the Bible as the primary basis for teaching and seeks to walk with the Holy Spirit.
- is a winsome, friendly person, a natural evangelist, who has a gift for getting alongside parents in the playground, toddlers' group or Messy Church and inviting them into God's house
- loves ministry in schools
- is experienced in making disciples
- who is an experienced practitioner of children's or youth work who can help identify, encourage and support potential leaders of ministry with children and young people
- is an innovative, creative and missionally focused team player.
- is a good communicator, confidently able to engagingly share the gospel with a variety of ages and settings.
- has a deep value of exploring faith in and relationship with children and young people that enables and inspires deep rooted personal faith in God.
- is warm, relational and will intentionally integrate themselves into community and church life.
- has an understanding of the challenges that a child or young person faces and how to equip parents and volunteer children and youth leaders, to support them

We, as a Church, offer you

- Regular continued professional development

- Being part of a committed, prayerful and supportive team, passionate about mission and loving being church family together and having fun.
- Line management and pastoral support
- Working with you to set clear boundaries between work and any volunteering you wish to do.
- A value on work-life balance and will seek to help you bring your best whilst having time to rest, have fun and time of your own.
- An inside of the week retreat, paid for by the church and in addition to annual leave and the training budget.
- Understanding and compassionate leadership that wants the best for you, your family and your ministry.

Duties and Responsibilities

- To outreach to families in the area starting with the people we connect with, or have done in recent times, inviting them to church events and nurture courses. This will be done through for example:
 - Schools – helping with collective worship, conducting parenting groups or other groups as identified.
 - Messy Church – helping us develop this to make disciples more effectively
 - Helping us evaluate the feasibility and effectiveness of other events
 - Baptisms – helping with baptism preparation
 - Uniformed groups – help with visiting these and promoting church
- To offer pastoral care to parents in our local community and church family through listening, signposting and praying.
- To support ministry to children, young people and families, taking on leadership of at least one area as time and gifting allows.
- To explore starting an after-school club.
- Be a part of our Worship for Everyone Team (all age worship planning) helping us to lead and innovate accessible worship for all ages in our church.
- Attend staff meetings and staff prayers where possible, attending prayers at least once a week.
- To keep necessary admin to up to date.
- To be exemplary in following safeguarding policy and procedures.
- Have a healthy attitude to ongoing professional development
- To keep good relationships with the wider community and to promote and champion the work of our church.
- To spend and manage money responsibly within the allocated budgets.
- To attend PCC and any other appropriate church meetings when requested.

Person Specification	
Education and Training	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five GCSE qualifications at Grade C (4) or above (or equivalent) preferably including English Language.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theological study

Experience	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An active member of a Christian church with a personal living faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. First-hand experience of leading activities for children and young people. Experience of working within a team.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of leading and nurturing teams of volunteers.

Knowledge and Skills	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A clear understanding of children/young people and principles of children's and youth work, including reaching them with the gospel and discipling them. Working knowledge and commitment to safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of children/youth. Skills in working directly with children & young people. IT literacy, including use of social media and word processing. Good people and communication skills, appropriate for connecting with children/parents/young people, interacting with the church family and reaching the community.

Qualities	
Essential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Able to evidence an active devotional life, a consistent Christian character, a love of the Bible and seeking to rely on the Holy Spirit. Able to show genuine desire, enthusiasm and boldness for leading families, young people and children into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ in a manner appropriate to them. Able to relate effectively with a wide spectrum of people (i.e. adults, young people and children). Able to communicate effectively in person and in writing. Able to motivate self and others and to manage use of time. Able to initiate and develop quality projects, groups and activities and adapt to changing priorities and circumstances. Able to present a strong, loving Christian role model. The confidence to work on your own initiative, but also able to recognise when to ask for help and advice. Commitment to engage in professional and spiritual development.
Desirable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to appropriate transport for travel within the area.

Technical matters

- **Given the nature and context of the work, it is an occupational requirement that the post holder should be a communicant member of the Church of England or a full member of a church within Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, in order to fulfil the main purpose of the post. This post is therefore exempt under Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.*
- In accordance with Blackburn Diocesan requirements, St John with St Philip PCC has adopted the diocesan safeguarding and safer recruitment policies.
- The role will be subject to a six-month probationary period.
- The post is subject to an enhanced criminal record check from the Disclosure and Barring Service.
- Note, this Job Description does not form part of your Contract of Employment.