

Job Description

HCC Family and Childrens Worker

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About Huntingdon Community Church

Huntingdonshire Community Church is a lively, community-based church committed to loving God and loving people - as disciples of Jesus Christ we want to live generously within our community, seeking to inspire hope and release potential in lives and communities across Huntingdonshire. This is underpinned by our values: Christ Centered, Relationally Connected, Community Focused and Life Transforming, with a passionate commitment to the work of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God in our lives.

Our Sunday morning services are held at a local school, Cromwell Academy in Hinchingsbrooke, and throughout the week a growing network of small groups meet locally in people's homes and on-line. As well as hosting a range of church activities such as our Youth and family-based outreach, the Church Centre at 83a on the High Street is also our base of operations. The Church Centre is also used by a wide variety of community and counselling services who hire space as part of partnership arrangements. Huntingdon Area Money Advice, Choices Counselling, Narcotics Anonymous, Bedazzle, Cambridge Deaf Association, Road Victims Trust, Thrive Youth Work Huntingdon, Huntingdon Psychological Wellbeing Service and a number of private counsellors have all partnered with us.

HCC is made up of around 50 committed adults, 20 young people and 15 children, with a broad range of ages, cultures and backgrounds. The church is a registered charity (no.803355) with a senior pastor, five trustees and five part-time paid and voluntary staff team members.

Main Purposes of the Role

The HCC Family and Childrens Worker will be responsible for leading and developing HCC's work with children and families both within the life of the church and wider community. With care and energy this role will continue to grow HCC's current Childrens and Family programs, creating opportunities for families to become involved in church life and to discover living faith and relationship within the context of loving community. The HCC Family and Childrens Worker will have scope to develop vision and strategy for the future of HCC's Children and Family work, exploring ways of being church with families on the periphery and creating pathways towards faith, support and community. The role will develop links with the whole church, HCC youth work and build links with outreach into the town, with the goal of seeing children and family life in Huntingdon thrive.

The HCC Family and Childrens worker will be supported and line managed by the Senior Pastor, working closely with the Youth Pastor, HCC Pastor and Safeguarding Trustee and.

Duties and Responsibilities

The duties and responsibilities of the role include but are not limited to the following. Certain responsibilities and activities may be delegated but the role retains overall responsibility.

- Continue to grow and develop HCC's children's programme:
 - Leading on Sunday Childrens Work (Primary ages 5-11) developing the volunteer team, furthering first steps in a living faith and discipleship for children and families
 - Overseeing Sunday Creche Provision, working with parents to create a warm and welcoming environment for pre-schoolers and their families.
 - Lead on Half Termly Sunday Forest Church, Easter, and Christmas Outreach Events in creating pathways of connection to church and faith within the wider community
 - Oversee and run HCC's thriving Toddler Group, developing relationships and content that builds community, interactive play between parent and child and appropriate opportunities for prayer and faith. Provide line management to all Rainbow Toddler Group staff & volunteers.
 - Input to All age Sunday Services
 - Termly Primary School Assemblies and projects such as Prayer Space – working with other churches and team members in this space.
 - Develop links and relationships with Cromwell School, Hinchingsbrooke
 - Oversee and run outreach projects with families throughout the year – Picnic in the Park, Christmas Hampers with Cromwell School.
- Create a fun and inviting atmosphere
- Establish a greater sense of intergenerational community within the Church, helping develop strong links between children, families and the wider church.
- Create opportunities for families to become involved in church life and increase involvement within the children's work teams and programmes
- Work as part of the Pastoral team to ensure appropriate pastoral care for HCC children and families
- To develop vision and strategy for the future of HCC's Children and Family work, exploring ways of being church with families on the periphery and creating pathways towards faith, support and community.
- Maintain and develop good working partnerships with other local children and family organisations and providers within the town, developing HCC's positive presence and work into the community, being aware of local needs and opportunities.
- Represent families and children's interests within the Churches decision making and planning processes.
- To uphold HCC's safeguarding policy and it's safeguarding procedures across HCC's family and children's work and ensure risk assessments and provisions are undertaken for all events and contexts. Working with the Safeguarding Officer and Safeguarding Trustee
- To report back on statistics and outcomes of all ongoing work.
- To undergo regular relevant training as identified with your line manager to keep skills and knowledge up to date, both within the personal Christian faith context and professionally.

- Participate in supervision, training and meetings as required, and assist in the development of the staff team in line with agreed development plans.

General

- Be responsible for your own spiritual growth, personal development and learning, and serve under the authority and guidance of the Senior Pastor and the Trustees.
- Attend meetings and liaise with colleagues as required.
- Attend training relevant to the role.
- Comply with all relevant Health & Safety and Safeguarding policies and regulations.
- Act as an ambassador for the church within the local community.
- Ensure compliance with internal quality assurance and safety standards.
- Undertake any such duties, appropriate to the grade and character of the work, as directed by the charity from time to time.
- Be responsible for personal learning and development, and keep up to date with relevant legislation, policy and practice, and other literature relevant to the role.

Person Specification

The HCC Family and Childrens Worker will be able to demonstrate that they:

- are living in an active personal walk with God and relationship with Jesus Christ
- have suitable theological understanding and biblical knowledge for undertaking a Childrens Work Lead role. Able to source, write and adapt materials for the HCC Childrens Work team
- can relate to a wide spectrum of people, diverse needs and create community and sense of belonging
- are approachable, warm and confident in manner, able to lead and facilitate teams and groups, are well organized and good at planning, and work well within a team environment.
- have a good rapport and a warm sense of humour with children and parents
- Within a group setting, ability to set and manage behavioural boundaries with children
- Are able to delegate tasks effectively and appropriately, while retaining overall responsibility for task output
- are confident and engaging in front of a congregation and can engage well with both small and large groups.
- teachable, with an appetite to keep learning and growing.
- are servant-natured, willing to do whatever task needs to be done when necessary.
- have strong Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Outlook mail, diary and task management skills.
- are of good character, trustworthy, and have done nothing historically that would bar them from holding this position.

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