**FAMILY DEVELOPMENT MINISTER**

**Job Description and Person Specification**

**West of Severn Benefice, Gloucestershire**

*starting September 2018*

**Family Development Minister**

Comprising the villages of Ashleworth, Corse, Hartpury, Hasfield, Maisemore, Staunton and Tirley

15 hours per week: £10,000 per annum [pro rata £26,667 per annum]

The Family Development Minister will seek to share the transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ with children and form fruitful friendships with their parents.

The Family Development Minister\* will work in collaboration a leadership team which includes the Rector.

The West of Severn Benefice is committed to the Church of England’s Safer Recruitment practices. An appointment can only be made after a satisfactory DBS check

\*Please note that this role carries an Occupational Requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for the post holder to have a personal commitment to the Christian faith.

**Person Specification** *(and see page three)*

+ A team-worker and goal setter

+ A keen sense of justice matched with creative and imaginative gifts

+ Live an inspirational model of lay leadership and foster prayer.

+ Understand the needs of families with a focus on active family social events.

+ Set-up missional midweek worship in a community space.

+ Work in partnership with community groups, schools and neighbouring churches

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|  | **Responsibilities and Accountabilities** | **Nature and Scope of Role** |
| 1 | Developing a relational way of doing family church working with the Rector and a Leadership Team. | To live out an inspirational model of lay leadership with a focus on active family social events.  To understand the needs of families and to foster prayer.  To create spaces for parents and children to meet (most likely spaces other than a church).  To set-up missional midweek worship in a community space. |
| 2 | Working with reference to the training opportunities offered by the Diocesan Family Officer and to the area family forum.  Collaborating with Heads and staff in local schools. | Developing the many ideas the Diocesan Family Officer generates on children and family forum days.  Using the *Roots and Fruits* values curriculum in school collective worship.  Using the new *Understanding Christianity* curriculum in classes in schools.  Using the resources of the prayer stations movement.  Creating material that can be used in the home, encouraging parents and children to grow in faith together. |
| 3 | Developing a missional way of doing family church working with the Rector and a Leadership Team. | The Family Development Minister and the family team, will develop outreach through sport, music and crafts. The Family Development Minister will collaborate with church members who are active in schools’ outreach across the benefice and in outreach through community events and acts of worship.  The family team will develop partnerships with neighbouring benefices, such as joint training days. |
| 4 | Developing a discipleship programme with the Rector and the Local Ministry Team, and with Worship Leaders. | A Family Development Minister, working with a leadership team, will be seeking activities which act as a bridge to Christian discipleship.  Developments to include are: Messy Church, Café Worship, community festivals, after school clubs and engagement through music, craft and sport.  These activities are to encourage more relevant ways of worshipping and connecting with new people.  Parents and children who become involved in these engagement activities, will be encouraged to do Alpha, communion before confirmation, Lent Groups and other discipleship courses. |
| 5 | Working with local lay ministers to provide a welcome to families approaching the church. | Within the GDPR regulations, where expressed permission has been given to contact people, we do want to develop our contacts. Some of our existing relationships include wedding couples, baptism families, parents of sporty children, uniformed organizations and parents at the school gate. We seek to develop deeper connections by sending cards on anniversaries, by giving invitations to Messy Church or special services, and by the church offering to run the kitchen and pay the village hall costs for the next birthday party following the baptism. |
| 6 | Working with the Area Dean and the assistant Area Deans. | At the same time a Deanery chaplaincy initiative is being born. This initiative is part of a wider Deanery vision. Many of the children from our three local primary schools go onto secondary school in Newent. The Newent School chaplaincy initiative seeks to offer pastoral support to Newent pupils with a distinctive and attractive discipleship program. |
| 7 | Working in partnership with Deanery children’s initiatives. | The Rector has brought back from Rwanda an international tool for discipling children through sport called *ReadySetGO*. As an assistant Area Dean the Rector is promoting this Scripture Union backed initiative across the Deanery and the Diocese.  We expect the Family Development Minister also to work collaboratively beyond the boundaries of our benefice. |
| 8 | Take up wonderful communication opportunities created by the new digital hub.  Report to Rector. | The Family Team will use the Community Hub, Facebook, Twitter etc to listen and share stories. A sense of community and belonging will be developed by face to face contact and through on-line community. |

*Concluding note: These 8 responsibilities are ambitious. Please understand that we are ambitious for a team working with the family development minister – we are ambitious for their combined legacy after three years… We want to develop new ways of doing church.*

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| **Generic Responsibilities** | |
| 1 | To ensure that all health and safety instructions (including safe guarding and data protection rules) are followed and that care is taken to ensure safety for self and colleagues, reporting concerns immediately |
| 2 | To undertake as requested other duties as may reasonably be expected |
| 3 | To ensure the highest standards of safeguarding practice |

\***This post carries an Occupational Requirement for the role holder to be a practising Christian under the Equality Act provisions.**

**Essential Person Specification:**

The successful candidate will have a strong Christian faith, a calling to work with children and families, a range of experience working with children and families, will thrive in a team context and be an innovator.

**Desirable Person Specification:**

The successful candidate will have teaching qualifications

***Please fill in the application form…***

**Post it to:**

*Revd John Longuet-Higgins*

*Family Development Minister*

*The Rectory, Over Old Road, Hartpury, Gloucestershire, GL19 3BJ*

**and send a digital copy to**

[*vicar.westof7@gmail.com*](mailto:vicar.westof7@gmail.com)

Closing date for application is Tuesday 31st July 2018

for an interview on Monday 13th August