

MURRAYFIELD PARISH CHURCH - FAMILIES & CHILDREN WORKER JOB DESCRIPTION

- Title of Post:** Families & Children Worker (part-time, 0.5) based at Murrayfield Parish Church.
- Responsible to:** Responsible to the Minister of Edinburgh: Murrayfield Parish church, in the first instance, but also to the Kirk Session's Staffing Group
- Date:** November 2024
- Main Purpose of post:** To develop the existing work of Murrayfield Parish Church with families and young people, with a particular focus on missional approaches within the community. The post will help Murrayfield Parish Church recover after the impact of the Covid pandemic on congregational activities

MAIN DUTIES

- 1. To enable families & children in the local parish community who have no live church connection to engage with church and encounter God, by:**
 - Creating opportunities outside of traditional church that are easier to access than Sunday services
 - e.g. activities with parents and children of pre-school age (toddler group), experimenting with a range of points of entry (including courses to explore faith), using clear signposting and a relational approach, connecting with church centre users.
- 2. To integrate families and children into the life of the church, by:**
 - Creating family friendly opportunities for participation in the life of the church
 - e.g. involvement in regular Sunday duties, participation in worship, family events, providing pastoral support, developing fellowship networks amongst families, communicating regularly.
- 3. To facilitate families and children growing in faith and learning how to share faith with others, by:**
 - Planning activities designed to help families and children mature in faith and grow in confidence in witness
 - e.g. developing and supporting Christian education initiatives, piloting a range of suitable events and programmes, exploring discipleship approaches.

OTHER DUTIES

- The role involves working within the ministry team and may include other duties as required.
- Appropriate collecting of information and reporting is required.
- The role involves working within a local covenanted ecumenical partnership (Murrayfield Churches Together), and also with Gorgie and Palmerston Place, and St. Stephen's Comely Bank, with whom Murrayfield is proposed to form a Parish Grouping.
- The role involves working alongside and supporting volunteers.
- Sharing of good practice and taking up training opportunities will be required.

Person Specification: Families & Children's Worker		
	Essential	Desirable
Skills, abilities and knowledge		
Christian commitment (this is a genuine occupational requirement in terms of the Equalities Act 2012)	√	
Ability to engage with young families in the community who have little or no church connection	√	
Experience of creating relationships with all ages in a congregational situation	√	
Pastoral skills	√	
Experience in identifying, recruiting and motivating volunteers	√	
Experience in liaising with other organisations and organising joint events	√	
An ability to develop and an understanding of how to progress a project		√
Experience of group work and particularly of achieving with the help of volunteers		√
Awareness and understanding of growing fresh expressions of church		√
Competent IT skills	√	
Good organisational skills	√	
Personal Qualities		
Enthusiastic, friendly and approachable	√	
Enjoys working under own initiative and is self-reliant	√	
Relational in outlook and approach	√	
Comfortable in a team environment		√
Flexible, adaptable and a good problem solver		√
Good at responding to the unexpected		√
Sensitive to working in a missional context and to the needs of the established congregation	√	

Terms and conditions:

- Normal hours of work will be 18.5 hours a week (0.5 FTE) as agreed locally. The nature of the work will require a degree of flexibility and will involve regular evening and weekend work
- The salary is based on the current Church of Scotland MDS scale £28,815 - £32,575. The post will include a pension contribution of 3%.
- The post is based at Murrayfield Parish church
- There are 5 weeks annual paid leave in each full holiday year, running 1 January to 31st December and also 9 statutory days. Entitlement is based on full weeks worked.

Application is by:

- **A personal statement**, outlining how your skills, experiences and personal qualities match the requirements of the role outlined in the job description. Please provide reference contact details for your last 2 periods of employment (this would normally be your direct line manager/supervisor).
- **A full CV**, including educational and professional qualifications alongside a full employment history showing positions held, responsibilities and relevant achievements.
- **A personal information form** which can be obtained from the office

The closing dates for applications is 30th November 2024 at 2pm

Applications are to be returned to: office@murrayfieldparishchurch.org.uk

Informal enquiries can be made to: kegraham@churchofscotland.org.uk

Interviews are scheduled for: December 2024