**Associate Vicar: St Dionis Church**

**Context**

We are seeking a ordained priest in the Church of England to join us at St Dionis. The context for this job is a hybrid role combining elements of a Community Pastor and Youth and Children's Pastor positions. This approach aims to address multiple needs within the church community. The role would involve overseeing ministry to children and youth across all church sites, developing programs, and providing pastoral support for families. Additionally, the position would focus on community outreach and local mission strategies.

**Job Overview**

We are looking for an experienced, energetic, and prayerful Associate/ Pastor to oversee and direct all our work with children and young people - based out of the church and operating in the local community.

They will be a critical part of the leadership of the church – in leading public worship, teaching, praying and caring for the worshipping community.

The successful candidate will be pivotal in both discerning and enabling the vision of the church in our service to our young people and children who are part of the church community and in reaching those in the parish who we are called to witness to, care for and love.

They will have exceptional commitment and joy in working alongside the PCC and wider church community, to enable:

* Formation of children and young people as disciples,
* Creative imagination and energy in evangelism with children and young people,
* Contagious compassion and love to serve the needs of children and young people in the parish.

They will play a very significant leadership role alongside the vicar in leading the team(s) of volunteers and paid staff who are involved in this ministry. They will have great gifts and orientation relationally and embody the commitment to children and young people.

Since both St Dionis church and CAS Halls were recently renovated, our deep desire is to develop new connections within our community as well as deepen, through the much-improved facilities, our existing network of neighbours and friends, including local schools – both primary and secondary and relevant community groups, charities and other tertiary sector organisations.

They will work to build open and trusting relationships with other churches and organisations seeking to serve young people and children and play our part in enabling the work of God’s Kingdom.

The potential is vast as we seek to serve our own children and young people and seek to serve and reach those outside of the church with the transforming news and goodness of the Kingdom of God.

**Person Specification**

• Committed to brilliant safeguarding of young people, children and adults at risk of harm or abuse and will continue to seek suitable training and development to maintain this safety. Oversee all processes and administration that are necessary for the church to deliver excellent Safeguarding.

• A team player – able to take responsibility and release the gifts of others.

• Significant experience, commitment and love for God’s work among children and young people with the ability to communicate vision and plan strategically, within the Staff Team

• Ability to bring and clarify vision, to be comfortable both leading and being led.

• Relational, with a deep care for people

• Creative evangelistic instincts, to be an effective communicator and committed to great communication.

• By holding together both Word and Spirit to personify a passionate commitment to listen, discern and elucidate where God is leading and alongside key stakeholders, make strategic decisions based on that.

• Experienced in leading teams of colleagues and volunteers, notably those that are ‘time-poor’.

• Self-aware, enjoying taking initiative, seeking to be undefended and reliable.

• Fully supporting the wider vision and values of St Dionis church and willing to allow them to shape their ministry and lifestyle.

**Job Specification**

* To facilitate and champion the vision of St Dionis with and amongst children and young people.
* To advocate for the priority of children and young people
* To discern, develop and hold the strategy necessary to serve the church’s vision with children and young people.
* To have oversight of all ministries with and to children and young people – those who are part of the church and those the church is called to serve.
* To lead and care for the teams of staff and volunteers who are involved in these ministries, committed to ensure brilliant training, enabling and releasing of the gifts of God for God’s work.
* To hold the scope of relationships in the parish and locality with those working with children and young people – particularly schools and other partner agencies.
* To lead by example spending at least half the time in face-to-face work with children and young people.
* To identify and support individuals, families and communities within the parish that are in need, where appropriate working with other partner agencies (such as Kids Matter or Safe families).
* To share the leadership of the Church family, with responsibility for ensuring that life of the local community lies at the heart of the church’s mission.
* To ensure the safety and well-being of all involved in accordance with the safeguarding guidelines of the Diocese of London (A Safe Church).
* To take on leading, teaching and preaching responsibilities alongside the Vicar, SSM Curate and other core leaders of St Dionis.

**Working arrangements**

* Working hours: 37.5 hours per week, including Sundays, allowing for a degree of flexibility in the weekly/monthly working pattern. Some Saturday and evening work may be required on specific occasions (time off given in lieu).
* Contract length to be negotiated.
* Holiday: 30 days pa (max 6 Sundays)
* Salary: Locally Supported Minister Stipend as set out by the Church of England plus Housing Contribution by mutual agreement.
* Reporting: The Associate/Community Pastor will be employed by the Parochial Church Council and will report directly to the Vicar Rev Chris Russell.
* Church Office Location: The Church Office, 18a, Parsons Green, SW6 4UH.

**Equal Opportunities**

St Dionis is an equal opportunities employer and will seek to ensure that every applicant for a job, and every employee, shall be given equal opportunity whatever his or her personal status, except in a matter of:

* religious belief, in any case where the Christian base of the work is declared and is seen clearly to require membership of or links with the Church, or sympathy with the aims of the Church; and
* offending background, in any case where the criminal record history relates to the requirements of the post.
* This post will require an Enhanced DBS check

**Application Process**

A concise CV (max 3 sides of A4)

A covering letter no more than 2 sides of to demonstrate how you meet the person specification in a covering letter (no more than 2 sides of A4.)

The names of 3 referees to be taken before interview. One current/most recent employer, church leader and personal reference.

A Children’s or Youth Bible study that you have planned.

   OR

A structure for a Children’s/Youth Event you have organised.