

The Benefice of St. Gregory and All Saints Sudbury

Children and Families' worker (part time)

We are looking to employ a Children and families' worker to lead our existing work and help set up new initiatives. We feel this is a very exciting opportunity for a committed Christian to work alongside a dedicated voluntary team, supported with training opportunities and professional development within the diocese.

ABOUT US

We are a Church community looking to "grow younger". We are looking for someone with the enthusiasm and motivation to help us with our mission with children.

Sudbury is a bustling market town with the sixth largest population in Suffolk of 24,000, with many new young families. The two churches of St Gregory's and All Saints work together as the Gainsborough Benefice. St Gregory's Church is considered the Civic Church of Sudbury and the local area, so we have found it well placed to offer events that bring in children and their families. We have organised 'Christmas Through The Keyhole' for all the local schools, a Light Party for All Souls Day and recently an Easter Egg Trail when it was lovely to see families together busily enjoying our large churchyard and church. These events have brought in many new faces and seems to delight everyone young and old, but we know more is needed to encourage a deeper interest.



Made at the Light Party Family fun on the Easter Egg Trail, - getting an egg!



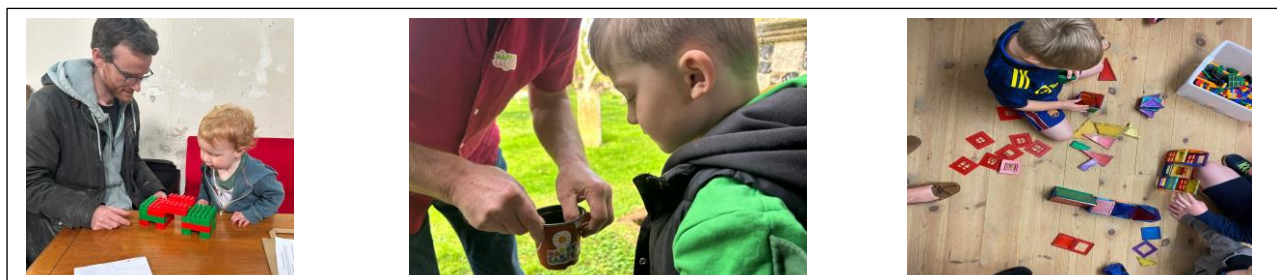
Christmas through the Keyhole – the shepherds' field and Joseph's workshop



St Gregory's has a central worship tradition singing hymns and some liturgy to pipe organ. Our Sunday morning attendance at the main service is usually about fifty adults covering a wide range of ages including children and babies. Junior Church happens during this service. We have a small dedicated and enthusiastic team of volunteers, who keep Junior Church going, but they would benefit from a CFW regularly taking the lead here, providing continuity, direction and support for the children, the volunteers and also to build up a dialogue with parents. At present this Junior Church is for the 3-10 age groups and runs every Sunday at St Gregory's using the old vestry. There is a room upstairs for the older children and a room full of activities downstairs for littler ones. Leading off this room is a small, enclosed courtyard garden area which we've just started to use for the children. This also has access to the whole church yard.

We are also active in the local primary schools and especially in the two CofE schools, St Gregory's School and Tudor School where our incumbent takes school assemblies and

members of the benefice are governors. We actively support 'Open The Book' which works in the schools through a local charity, Future Vision. Other mission partners include 'Edens Project', a local youth and schools' work charity and The Children's Society through the Christingle Service.



All Saints is open evangelical with an adult congregation of 30 on Sundays. Bronze status Eco Church has been achieved and there is a thriving monthly weekday service for adults with special needs. We would like to use the All Saints' Hall for a mid-week parent and toddler church. With the help of a CFW we hope this might become a reality in the near future. There is a secure garden, refurbished kitchen and open-plan floor space, all very suitable.

While St Gregory's is the choice for the schools to hold termly concerts, which we encourage, All Saints proximity to St Gregory CofE Primary School and the church hall makes it most suited to a parent and toddler church. It has also meant it has been easy for All Saints to invite a class of children to visit to learn about Eco issues, build bug hotels and talk about wild flowers.

There is energy and enthusiasm for innovation throughout the benefice to build and support our young people in the Christian faith and we are excited to have attracted Diocesan funding to help us to work further on this path. As well as funding the CFW post for three years, we are using the grant to add AV technology at St. Gregory's and refitting the spaces to enable age specific areas with live streaming and Wi-Fi which will also provide support as a teaching aid. We also regularly run home groups and co-lead an ecumenical ALPHA course.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Children and Families' worker

Location: St. Gregory's and All Saints Sudbury

Responsible to: St. Gregory's PCC under the supervision of Revd. Andrew Doarks, Incumbent

Purpose: to lead our existing work and help set up new initiatives.

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Lead junior church supported by volunteers. This involves planning, preparing and delivering Sunday morning sessions. We currently use Roots material.
- To pray regularly for the children and their families
- Initiate, encourage and support participation in new ventures including the 'Toddler Church' ideas.
- To help children and families to explore and develop their Christian faith, helping them to become confident in sharing their faith with others.
- To work with the Incumbent, and the Safeguarding Lead, to ensure compliance with the Churches' Policy on Safeguarding and creating a safe space for all.
- To support and encourage volunteer leaders for our benefice's Children's and Families' Work.

OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Undertake appropriate training (provided). Diocesan training leading to licensing as a Children's and Families worker is supported and recommended.
- Attend Ministry Team meetings as required.
- Produce written reports about the Children and Families work in brief for bi-monthly PCC meetings, and as an annual review for the APCM.
- To help lead events such as Christmas Through The Keyhole, Light parties and Easter activities.

MANAGEMENT

The successful candidate will have a line manager whose responsibilities will be to:

- Become familiar with the work you are doing.
- Equip and offer training and development.
- Work with you to encourage the church to respond to new challenges and opportunities in mission to children and families.
- Determine priorities for the work with children and families.
- Work with you to prepare your personal development plan.
- Encourage and support you in maintaining good communications with all stakeholders.
- Offer supervision on a weekly basis.
- Be there to listen to any concerns you have and to help problem-solve as necessary.
- Ensure SMART objectives and templated expectations are provided, agreed and discussed on a regular basis with you.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

General attributes

- A demonstrable love of Christ, sharing your faith enthusiastically and confidently
- Committed to growing your own faith
- Reliable, trustworthy, maintaining discretion and confidentiality
- A team player who will encourage and support others
- Friendly and warm persona, with an ability to work with a diverse group of people
- Good self-awareness and ability to reflect
- Sympathetic to the mission and ministry of our benefice

Skills and knowledge

- Knowledge of how children's and families' ministry work
- An understanding of how to work best with volunteers
- Knowledge of and commitment to the Safer Recruiting and Safeguarding requirements for volunteer and paid roles in line with Church of England guidance
- A self-starter with demonstrable ability to self-manage and a proven ability to meet deadlines
- Quick and keen learner
- Good verbal and written skills and the ability to communicate effectively with children and adults including through PowerPoint and social media

Experience

- Experience of sharing faith with children
- Experience of motivating and working with volunteers
- Experience of running childrens' activities

GENERAL INFORMATION – TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Terms of appointment:	Three Year Fixed Term Contract
Remuneration	£27,300 – 31,200 (fte) / £16,380 – 18,720 (actual)
Hours of work	22.5 hours per week. This will include some evenings and weekends. Regular attendance at Sunday services is essential with the distribution of the remaining hours to be negotiated.
Expenses	All reasonable expenses will be reimbursed. These will need to be agreed with the line manager first.
Pension	Employer's contribution at market rate. Membership of NEST Scheme.
Holiday entitlement	15 days paid leave in addition to the usual public holidays (on a pro rata basis).
DBS	Appointment will be subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS clearance
References	Appointment will be subject to two satisfactory references
Probationary period	Appointment will be subject to the satisfactory completion of a three-month probationary period, during which time progress is regularly reviewed and the period may be extended.
Notice period	During probation 2 weeks and thereafter 1 month
Place of Work	St Gregory's, Sudbury and appropriate periods of time from home.
Start Date	Monday 27 th October 2025
Transport	The candidate will need to be able to get to and from St Gregory's and the schools / local area within our parish. Should the postholder drive their own car for work, they will need insurance cover for business use. Mileage expenses, from St Gregory's, which are agreed beforehand with the line manager, will be met.

NOTES

It is expected that the post holder would be / become a wholehearted worshipping member of the church and there is a genuine occupational requirement for the person to be a practising Christian.

Continuing professional development will be offered, which will include occasional training sessions and external courses. The cost of these, including travel, will be met by the parish.

Go online for more information/an application form:

www.stgregorychurchsudbury.co.uk

Or telephone Andrew Crumpton on 07780 683455

Deadline for applications: 26th September 2025

Parish interviews: shortlisting 29th September , for interviews on Friday 10th October

Applications should be sent to: parishsecretary@stgregs.co.uk