



## St. James' Church: Kids' Church Pastoral Worker

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From September 2009, St James' Junior Church will be relaunched as *Kids' Church @St James'*, meeting at the same time as the adult church (during term time) and joining together with the adults for All Age services and occasional 'collective' services where all Sunday congregations come together. Children are a vital part of our church family and as such much focus, prayer and support is given to their development spiritually within the life of St. James' – this is a role where this focus is outworked through helping young children worship, pray and learn about God through Bible stories, fun and play.

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### **Main responsibilities**

- Register and welcome children and their families at beginning of session
- Pass on relevant information about children to small group leaders
- Oversee collection of children at end of session, ensuring children leave with appropriate adult
- Be available for children who need additional support during Kids' Church – for example, if they are upset, or are presenting challenging behaviour or having problems learning
- Be part of, and support children in, the beginning of the morning when all ages are together
- Work in any of the small groups where children need support
- Pray for all children and workers within Kids' Church
- Encourage children to come to faith in Jesus
- Provide a safe and nurturing environment within which children can learn
- Prepare the room before the session and ensure it is left clear at the end of the session
- Attend, if possible, the planning and information sessions held 3 – 4 times a year

### **Key things to remember**

- As a children's group leader you are in a position of responsibility in the church and as such should act according to its values and aims.
- The children will see you as a trusted adult and role model – how you live out your faith will have a long-lasting effect on theirs
- New children and leaders should be encouraged and supported – don't assume everyone has the same level of knowledge or spiritual maturity
- Arrive at least 15 minutes before the session begins
- Have fun!

### **Additional Information**

**Meeting place:** The Estcourt Rooms OR the Parish Centre (to be decided)

**Age Range:** 3s –11s

**Person to whom worker is directly responsible:** Kids' Church Co-ordinator (currently Becky Sedgwick)

#### **Declaration:**

I have understood the nature of the work I am to do with children/young people.

I have read and understood the overview of St James' Policy for safeguarding children and young people.

I understand that it is my duty to protect the children and young people with whom I come into contact.

I know what action to take if an allegation of abuse is made or is suspected.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_