

## Job Description

- Job Title:** Family (Families) Worker
- Organisation:** Walsworth Road Baptist Church, Hitchin, Hertfordshire
- Line Manager:** This role will report to Church Secretary.

WRBC is a friendly, all-age church with approximately 80 members. We believe in “*Sharing Life together, Showing love to all, because Jesus is Good News today!*” The church premises are used for activities for around 250 children and young people each week during term time, many of whom have no other contact with church. These include our weekly Wrigglers & Tiddlers Toddler Group, our Summer one-week Holiday Club and both Scouting & Girl Guiding Uniformed Groups.

The Family worker will work in a team with our Minister, Church worker, Youth worker and other volunteer Church members running outreach or discipleship groups.

*During the Covid-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown many of our activities continued online via Zoom. With the easing of restrictions most have returned to “face to face” in person meetings, but our gatherings for prayer, learning and worship are still in a hybrid form ie both in person and on line.*

### Job Purpose

Initially the Family Worker will be expected to particularly engage with the parents and carers attending our toddler group, so they are effectively supported and are presented with different opportunities to explore the Christian faith.

The successful applicant will be expected to develop the role after a period of research/consultation with church family and the current groups that meet on our premises. They should provide a focal point with whom all families with young children can identify, whether churched or unchurched.

They will be expected to encourage lasting relations to be made both from current church connections and from within the local community, particularly co-operating in shared mission projects within primary schools and with other local churches through Forum.

### Other Information

This is a part-time role offering 16 hours of work per week (funded initially for 2 years) with days to be agreed but including Thursday mornings. Some weekend and evening work will be required.

A Disclosure & Barring Service disclosure is required for this post as the role involves Regulated Activity as described in the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

There is a Genuine Occupational Requirement for the role holder to be a Christian in accordance with Part 1, Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.

**1. Key responsibilities:**

Develop and deliver a strategy for our work with families & children (0-7 years) at WRBC, which includes:

- a. To be part of the WRBC leadership team and support current children & youth programmes including leading some Sunday services & parts of Holiday Club.
- b. To create, pilot and develop activity programmes to help families visiting WRBC to connect with the church and then explore the Christian faith.
- c. To develop and lead/participate in programmes for families in the local community which will allow for opportunities to build relationships and evangelize.
- d. To model Christian living to families in line with WRBC ethos and values.
- e. To ensure an appropriate interface with the Jam Club Coordinator and Youth worker.

**2. Key tasks:**

- a. Supporting parents and carers attending our Wrigglers & Tiddlers toddler group, providing opportunities for them to grow in their understanding and experience of the Christian faith.
- b. Visiting parents and carers who attend Wrigglers & Tiddlers as well as families who are new to the church on Sundays.
- c. Signposting or delivering appropriate parenting (*eg Care for the Family courses*) and evangelism (*eg Christianity explored*) courses.
- d. Maintaining an occasional presence before the whole church, for example for updates and prayer, to build relationships with church members.
- e. Maintaining and developing links with families following a dedication service.
- f. Identifying skills and talents relevant to children's work, within the congregations, and nurturing and developing these gifts, to grow teams of leaders.
- g. Attending & leading some "Embrace" prayer meetings. These are held monthly specifically praying for the needs of our children, young people, families and leaders.
- h. Development of new expressions of church for parents and carers to attend.
- i. To undertake such other duties as may reasonably be required commensurate with the responsibilities of the post.