

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA
DIOCESE OF TASMANIA/PARISH OF DELORAINÉ

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Children and Families Worker
Last Revised:	30/09/2021
Employment Conditions:	<p>The position is 0.4 FTE on an initial 2 year appointment. Whilst a commitment to the Children and Families ministry activities that occur on Sundays is expected, the actual days and hours that make up the full load will be negotiated upon appointment.</p> <p>There will be an initial 3 Month Review, followed by Annual Ministry Reviews</p>
Remuneration:	<p>Stipend and allowances will be based on either the Ministry Worker or Assistant Minister levels as set by the Diocese. The appropriate level will be determined by the successful candidate's qualification and experience.</p>
Objective	<p>Our Parish vision is to be 'making disciples of Jesus, building for eternity'. The Children and Families worker will work alongside the Incumbent and Parish Council to enact this vision, taking a lead role in faith sharing and discipling activities aimed at children, and by helping to equip parents to foster faith in their family home. They will recruit and train new team members, and we anticipate that new ministries may be developed as the candidate brings their own ideas, experiences and passions to the role.</p>
Level of Responsibility	<p>The Children and Families worker will work under the direct supervision and direction of the Incumbent. They will be expected to show high levels of initiative and self-direction on a day-to-day basis, within their areas of responsibility.</p>
Conditions:	<p>Successfully complete a pre-employment Safe Ministry Check. Maintain both SCC accreditation to a minimum standard of Team Leader, and a current Working with Vulnerable People's Card.</p>

Since the end of 2017, Deloraine Anglican have been actively developing 'Pathways to Discipleship', with an intended mission focus on children in the primary school age range, along with their parents. Over the past two years, we have initiated new ministry activities involving children and families.

We have an after-school LEGO club, which regularly attracts 15-20 non-churched children and their parents on a weekly basis. There is a growing once-per-month 'messy church' style Family Together service on a Sunday afternoon, involving 4+ families from a variety of faith backgrounds exploring what it means to follow Jesus together (we would love to see this ministry expand!). Our Sunday service includes a dedicated Kids Talk which we have recently shaped to mirror the big idea of the preaching/passage in the adult's sermon – and there is scope for growth here as our in person gathering only regular attracts between 1 and 3 children, while we have between 2 and 3 families tuning in to the live stream.

We have a brilliant family ministry space – our Oikos centre – which is warm, comfortable, and flexible – and is dedicated solely to ministry use (so you don't have to worry about clashing with an external hirer's booking)! We also have a large church hall, and sizeable church grounds to use for activities for all ages. We have previously utilised these for Christmas Eve celebrations and Australia Day family fun activities. We regularly partner with other churches in the community Carols and the Easter festival, and we also support the local high school chaplain.

While there are significant challenges for our parish, not least of which is the increasing age of our congregation along with the corollary diminishment of our volunteer pool, there is also much to be excited about, and thankful for. Our current Children and Families ministries are ripe for development, and we believe this role will be a strategic investment not just to run what we already do, but to develop new and exciting ministry opportunities.

Knowledge / convictions

The successful candidate will demonstrate:

- a vibrant, personal, and public commitment to live as a disciple of Jesus, through regular bible study, personal prayer and other spiritual disciplines
- good self-care practices, through appropriate management of personal commitments, ministry activities, times of retreat and rest, and regular annual leave
- an enthusiasm for working with children and their parents, and especially in seeing them grow as disciples of Jesus
- the capacity to work independent of direct supervision, whilst maintaining commitment to fostering and supporting healthy team ministry
- a willingness and desire to explore new ideas, and creative ways to communicate the gospel across generations, and

- the ability to prioritise both in terms of the roles that they take on within various ministry opportunities and the tasks that need to be accomplished – keeping sharing the good news of Jesus with children and families in our community as their number one priority

Skills and experiences

Essential	Desirable
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A commitment to lifelong learning as a disciple of Jesus 2. Experience in leading ministry to children and families 3. High levels of communication, organisation, prioritisation, planning. 4. Ability to recruit, train and lead teams 5. Proven ability to communicate the gospel of Jesus in a variety of contexts and age-appropriate ways 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prior theological or ministry training 2. Accreditation in a field related to working with young people 3. Experience in developing new ministries 4. Experience in creating and monitoring risk assessments and permission to proceed documentation 5. Experience in training volunteers in Safe Church communities 6. Current First Aid qualification (training can be organised for the right candidate)

Duties and Responsibilities

1. Co-ordinate current Children and Families Ministry
 - a. Take a primary role in both leading the 'now' and developing the future of our Family Together and Sunday morning Children and Families ministries
 - b. Help to lead LEGO club once per week (currently Thursdays 3:30-4:45pm)
2. Develop new ministry opportunities to children and families in our Parish – especially focussing on sharing the gospel and making disciples of Jesus
 - a. Alongside the incumbent, PC and ministry leaders, develop new ministry idea(s)
 - b. Prepare all necessary documentation (SCC) and regularly review their progress
3. Recruit, train, resource and equip teams for Children and Family Ministries
 - a. Where there are current teams: pray, plan, work and review together regularly
 - b. Where needed, recruit and train new ministry volunteers, assisting them through the necessary screening and accreditation processes
4. Foster strong and supportive relationships with families and the wider community

- a. Create opportunities to connect with families outside of direct ministry contact, encourage and support parents in fostering faith, and seek feedback regularly
- b. Connect with schools, chaplain, other churches and community groups regularly

Application Process

Applications should include: a cover letter addressing the skills, experiences, and duties of this position; a Curriculum Vitae or Résumé; and the contact details of at least 3 referees – one of whom should be your current senior minister. They should be submitted to:

Rev. Joshua Skeat or joshua.skeat@gmail.com
P.O Box 7 Deloraine, Tas, 7304

Further information about the Parish, including a copy of our Mission Action Plan may be requested by contacting Josh via email or on 0438681404.