

ST MARK'S CHURCH.

Hearts on Fire. Hope Alive.

CHILDREN &
FAMILIES LEAD

26 FEB 2026

OUR STORY & CONTEXT

In December 2025, under new leadership, St Mark's entered a season of renewal and revitalisation in partnership with the Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham. Our vision is to see hearts on fire for Jesus and hope come alive. We long to see children and families across North Nottingham encounter the presence of God, grow as disciples of Jesus, and find a home in the worshipping life of the church. Reaching younger is not an optional addition to our mission – it is essential to it.

Woodthorpe is a varied and dynamic parish – majority residential, multi-generational, with strong schools, a large number of families, and a growing demographic longing for community, purpose, and spiritual depth. As God brings renewal, we are restoring ministries that introduce people to Jesus and draw them into worshipping life. As we invest in emerging generations, the Children & Families Lead role is absolutely foundational to the future of St Mark's.

JOB TITLE	CHILDREN & FAMILIES LEAD
RESPONSABLE TO	VICAR
LOCATION	ST MARK'S WOODTHORPE (NOTTINGHAM)
WORKING HOURS	3 DAYS 20 HOURS PER WEEK WITH FLEXIBILITY DEPENDING ON CANDIDATE
DATE UPDATED	26 FEBRUARY 2026

OUR VALUES. OUR PRIORITIES.

At St Mark's, we hold three core values that shape both our culture and our priorities in ministry:

ENCOUNTER

We believe lives are transformed through genuine encounter with the presence of God. Worship, prayer, and openness to the Holy Spirit are central to who we are. We seek to create spaces where people can slow down, meet with God, and be renewed by His love and power.

FORMATION

We believe following Jesus is about becoming the kind of people He is created us to be. Discipleship, for us, is a lifelong journey of learning to live like Jesus – apprentices shaped by Scripture, grounded in spiritual practices, formed in community, and worked out in the everyday rhythms of life. We long to see lives changed from the inside out.

MISSION

We believe the church exists for the sake of the world and is invited into God's work of renewing all things. Mission flows naturally from encounter and formation: as people meet Jesus and learn His way of life, they are sent to live out the good news. We seek to invite others into this life – sharing hope in word and action, and joining God in His work of making all things new.

THE ROLE

The Children & Families Lead will develop, grow, and lead ministries that help children and families encounter Jesus, grow in faith, and become part of the life of St Mark's.

The post-holder will lead Sunday children's ministry, build midweek connections with families, strengthen relationships with local schools, create pathways into worship and discipleship, and support the wider Emerging Generations ministry of the church.

This role is central to our commitment to growing disciples wider, younger, and deeper.

KEY RESPONSABILITIES

SUNDAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

- Lead and develop a vibrant, prayerful, Bible-rooted children's ministry on Sundays.
- Prepare age-appropriate teaching, worship, prayer activities, and creative engagement.
- Ensure children are welcomed, included, and disciplined in ways that support lifelong faith.

MIDWEEK OUTREACH & FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Develop relationships with local families through toddler groups, events, and community outreach.
- Create opportunities for families to explore faith and become part of church life.
- Plan and deliver seasonal outreach (Christmas, Easter, holiday events, etc.).

SCHOOLS ENGAGEMENT

- Build positive relationships with local schools (despite being non-Church of England).
- Develop creative ways into schools that go beyond assemblies, with a vision for faith exploration, after-school evangelism, pathways to Alpha or age-appropriate discipleship and invitations into church life

TEAM LEADERSHIP & DEVELOPMENT

- Recruit, train, and encourage volunteers for children's ministry.
- Create a culture of prayer, discipleship, and excellence among your team.
- Provide ongoing support and pastoral care for volunteers.

EMERGING GENERATIONS STRATEGY

- Work closely with the Youth Lead (or Emerging Generations Pastor, if appointed).
- Shape a joined-up strategy from 0–18 that supports families and young people.
- Ensure smooth transitions between age ministries.

SAFEGUARDING & BEST PRACTICE

- Ensure all children's ministry environments are safe, welcoming, and supportive.
- Maintain safeguarding standards in line with Church of England guidance.
- Keep accurate registers, permission forms, and incident records.

ADMINISTRATION & ORGANISATION

- Prepare rotas, resources, room requirements, and communication.
- Maintain oversight of ministry budgets.
- Ensure the church hall reflects the needs of children and families.

LEADERSHIP & CHURCH INTEGRATION

- Work collaboratively with the Vicar and Leadership Team.
- Ensure families have clear pathways into Sunday worship, small groups, and discipleship.
- Spark imagination for how St Mark's can become a welcoming home for families in Woodthorpe.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL

- A committed Christian who values the mission of St Mark's.
- Experience working with children and families in a Christian context.
- Confidence in leading prayer, worship, and Bible teaching for children.
- A heart for evangelism and mission to younger generations.
- Strong relational and pastoral skills with children and adults.
- Ability to recruit, equip, and care for volunteer teams.
- Organised, reliable, and able to plan ahead.
- Understanding of safeguarding and safe practice.
- Willingness to work Sundays and some evenings.

DESIRABLE

- Experience in a revitalisation, pioneer, or growing church.
- Experience building ministries from scratch.
- Creative gifting in storytelling, drama, crafts, or worship.
- Experience working with local schools.
- Familiarity with the Church of England.
- Ability to use ChurchSuite.

SAFEGUARDING & CULTURE

- Enhanced DBS required.
- Commitment to safe ministry and safeguarding training.
- Working in line with Church of England safeguarding policies.
- Commitment to the safeguarding culture and values of St Mark's.
- There is an occupational requirement for the post-holder to be a practising Christian (Schedule 9 EO Act).

TERMS & CONDITIONS

SALARY	£15,000 - £17,000 PER YEAR DEPENDING ON EXPERIENCE
HOURS	20 HRS/WEEK (FLEXIBLE)
CONTRACT	TWO-YEAR FIXED TERM WITH POTENTIAL EXTENSION TO 2030
HOLIDAY	25 DAYS PER YEAR (PRO RATA) PLUS BANK HOLIDAYS
PROBATION	6 MONTHS
PENSION	UP TO 6% EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTION

HOW TO APPLY

PLEASE SUBMIT

- YOUR CV
- CONTACT DETAILS FOR TWO REFEREES

TO DANIEL@STMARKSONLINE.CO.UK

APPLICATION DEADLINE 27 APRIL 2026

INTERVIEWS 3 MAY 2026

**We would be
delighted to
explore with you
how God might
be calling you to
help build a
thriving ministry
for children and
families at St
Mark's.**