



Children and Families Role at St Giles.

Thank you for expressing an interest in the Children and Families worker role at St Giles, West Bridgford.



Here at St Giles we are passionate about sharing the good news of Jesus with every generation and growing life-long disciples. We are seeking someone to join the team who will share our vision for reaching and discipling children and supporting them and their families through the different seasons of life.

Our current work with children.

There are currently 45 children who we see at least once a month at St Giles. The average attendance on a Sunday for 2-11 year olds is 35, and about 25 under fives through the week.

Sundays: We gather all together on a Sunday morning to worship and then part way through the service the children go out to two groups Sunbeams (2-4 year olds) and junior church (4-11 year olds). Once a month there is an all-age service at which the children are encouraged to be fully engaged in the different parts of the service, acknowledging the challenge this is particularly for those under 3.

The children return from their groups to join us for communion once a month.



Thursday mornings : Tiddlers – baby and toddler group. We welcome many families from the community into the hall. There is free play and craft from 10 to 11am and then we gather for a bible story and singing. The emphasis is on relationship building with, and pastoral care of, parents, grandparents and carers. We invite families into the church on a regular basis for special services.

Friday mornings: Story and Song. An expression of church for under 5s and their carers. We begin in the lady chapel of the church with a welcome song and then tell a Bible story – often using Godly play material. There is then more singing and the Lord's prayer before we go to the George chapel for free play and snacks.

There is a rich history of Messy Church at St Giles but recently our messy church style events have been run just at seasonal times such as a light party, and at Easter.



Local families love to celebrate Christmas with us – they join with us at the start of Advent for our popular Christingle service and on Christmas Eve this year over 400 came to be part of a pop up nativity.

Schools Work. We have a good relationship with the local infants and junior school -we lead an assembly once a term, year 2 come in for a treasure hunt around the church as part of their RE curriculum and we run an Easter experience for year 5, taking them through the different events of Holy Week. The schools use the church as the venue for the Christmas carol service, their nativity play and for their leavers assembly.

We seek to welcome new babies into the family of the church by supporting families with meal drops.

Over the years we have run joint holiday clubs together with other local churches – the children’s workers from each church working well together as a team.



Our Team

Clergy Team : Joanna Seabourne started as the rector of St Giles in October 2023. She loves the numerous opportunities that there are for mission here and the joy of being part of an intergenerational community called by God to reach out in many different ways to the people of West Bridgford.

Graham Baker started as the curate in July 2024 and is serving the church in numerous ways especially through the leading of alpha courses and the launching of a new evening service.

Che Seabourne is an Associate minister serving the church in a part-time voluntary capacity.

Ellen Dann is currently our children's and families worker but is stepping down from this role as she prepares for full time ordained ministry. She is currently training at St Mellitus, Midlands.

Sam Hutchinson is our full time youth worker who runs everything to do with our fantastic Young People at St Giles - from Friday youth nights, to midweek discipleship groups to the youth group on Sundays.

Operations Manager: Claire Sheard is our operations manager extraordinaire who enables things to keep things running smoothly day to day at St Giles.

PCC: We have a fantastic group of 23 people who serve on the PCC helping to discern the way forward in mission and meeting the challenge of looking after our buildings, finances and team.

Volunteers: St Giles has a huge number of volunteers who serve in different ways across the church. The youth and children's groups are able to run through the hard work and dedication of the volunteer teams that give of time and energy each week but the teams are stretched and recruiting new team members is key to the growth of this ministry.

Our context

With a population of 50,000, West Bridgford is a bustling and vibrant suburb of Nottingham, around 2 miles south of the city centre. St Giles' is on the edge of Central Avenue, which is a destination in itself, home to many shops, cafes, restaurants and bars and numerous independent businesses. By day the Avenue is filled with families visiting the fantastic space of Bridgford Park, the farmers market and gathering for coffee; by night friends meet for meals and drinks. St Giles' is within earshot of the City Ground, home to Nottingham Forest and Trent Bridge cricket ground, and there's also Notts County just over the river. West Bridgford Infants and Juniors schools are both in the parish under one executive head teacher but on separate sites.

St Giles is a medieval church although little remains from that period; most of the building dates from two major extensions around the turn of the last century. The church can seat 400 people, the majority of which is cushioned chairs that can be moved and stacked to reconfigure the space for different activities, from café style worship nights, to children's workshops and ceilidhs! The George Chapel, at the end of the north aisle, had a kitchen installed to one side about a decade ago, and this is used for serving refreshments on Sundays and at Friday night youth events. We are currently in the middle of a large 150K project to renew the electrics of the church and put in new lighting.

Our commitment

As a church we have a commitment to ensuring that all those who work for us are supported to be able to flourish in their role. This includes having clear role descriptions, protecting time off, prayer support and ensuring opportunities for training and development.

We gather weekly as a team to pray and worship together and to encourage one another in our own discipleship and in our calling to serve here at St Giles.

Useful Information

The role is permanent with a probationary period of six months.

The role will be line managed by a member of the clergy

The role is ideally full time but we would consider a part-time role for the right candidate.

If you want to talk to someone more about the role then do contact
Joanna.seabourne@stgilesparish.com

Closing date for applications: midday on 17th of April

Interview date: Thursday 30th April.

Start date: As soon as is possible