



- We seek:** Someone who is passionate to share the gospel with children, youth, and families in our community, enthusiastic about integrating them into the life, worship, and growth of the church and who has a vision, and the skills, to equip them as disciples to live out their faith in our modern society. They will be servant-hearted, loving, creative, have good interpersonal and communication skills, and experience in Christian children, or youth, ministry.
- Our Vision:** Is to be a multigenerational church which blesses its community, connecting to those of all ages in it, and being a place of safety, healing, wholeness, and hope. A place where people encounter God as we demonstrate to them His love and, as a result, where lives, and relationships, are transformed.
- Role & Purpose:** To lead, and develop, our children, youth, and families work in line with the vision of Gateway Christian Church to be a multigenerational church which blesses its community. This will involve leading, managing, and supporting activity leaders and teams, as well as hands-on work. As the role develops, it will involve linking with partner agencies and the local community.
- Hours:** Part-time, 15 hours/week (negotiable but minimum 12 hours).
- Contract:** Gateway aims to appoint a Senior Minister this year. Hence, this contract is initially for 1 year pending a review following the Senior Minister appointment.

### **Main Areas of Responsibility:**

#### **Leadership**

- Lead, encourage, and develop our children, youth, and families work to enable children, youth, and their families, to grow spiritually becoming an integral, worshipping, and serving part of Gateway Christian Church.
- Help Gateway to connect better with children, youth, and families in our community in order to bless them and reach them with the gospel.
- A link between Leadership and all those involved within the Children, Youth and Families ministry, being a voice for children and young people.

#### **Ministry**

- Make our Youth Work a key focus of development, overseeing it and driving its growth to rejuvenate this area of church life.
- Oversee the Sunday Children's Work (Gators) and support its leader(s) including, as required, helping with rotas, admin, serving on the team and finding resources.
- Oversee our Toddler Group (Giggles) supporting the team and serving on it as necessary.
- Lead and grow Family Outreach activities (eg Family Craft Café, Family Fusion, Messy Church, Holiday Clubs, etc).

- Link with partner charities that currently work with children, youth, and families at the Gateway Centre.

### **Future Development (3-6 months into contract)**

- Build relationships with future partners, especially potential Community Family Hub partners.
- Link with local schools.

### **Person Specification:**

This is not a checklist of essential criteria but rather gives a sense of the sort of person we seek.

#### **Personal Characteristics**

Committed to their own walk with God, having a personal relationship with Jesus, with a passion, and confidence, to share that with enthusiasm in an informed, effective, and non-judgmental way.

Living a lifestyle that displays the fruit of the Spirit, with an active prayer life, listening to God and open to the moving of the Spirit.

Has a vision for the future of Children, Youth, and Families Work at Gateway.

Servant-hearted, teachable, and committed to growing, and developing, both spiritually and as leader. Eager to take advantage of professional, and spiritual, development opportunities, and willing to have an accountability relationship with their line manager and other leaders.

Enthusiastic and passionate, with a genuine love for working with children, youth, and their families, and the ability to engage them.

Self-motivated, organised, energetic, creative, innovative, and practical. An honest person of integrity and humility.

A personable, and friendly, team player with good interpersonal, and communication, skills, able to deal with sensitive or challenging situations, or behaviours, in a wise, supportive, loving, and non-confrontational manner.

Has an understanding of, and empathy towards, the issues faced by young people, parents, and children today, including mental health issues.

Physically and emotionally able to carry out the demands of the work with a flexible approach to it, recognising the need to be adaptable to the different week-by-week demands of the role.

Has specific gifts that could be used as a focus for attracting children, youth, and families.

#### **Abilities**

Able to relate effectively, and communicate well, with a wide spectrum of people in a range of age, social, and cultural, contexts and to creatively engage with children, youth, and families.

Ability to recognise, and develop, gifts in others and foster an environment of participation and raising up of new leaders.

Ability to manage own workload/schedule effectively.

Able to lead and inspire others and build effective, motivated, teams.

Good organisational skills and attention to detail, able to keep clear records, put together effective programmes and rotas and follow safeguarding, and other, policies and procedures.

Ability, and desire, to network and build relationships/partnerships with other youth, children's, and families' services.

Committed to, and with a good understanding of, safeguarding, with relevant safeguarding training.

## **Experience**

Experience of working with churched and unchurched young people and/or children in a paid/voluntary position ideally, but not necessarily, in a church context. Experience of working with families is an advantage.

A committed member of their own church.

Experience of working, or volunteering, in a church environment.

Good Bible knowledge and sound theological understanding.

Experience of children/young people with Special Educational Needs/Mental Health Conditions.

Experience of Christian holiday clubs/events/camps is an advantage.

## **Other**

Prepared to be committed to worshipping at Gateway Christian Church at least two Sundays a month (ideally more) and, ideally, to play an active part in our church life and service.

Either lives locally or can easily access the Gateway Centre for work and worship.

A competent user of IT and social media.

Eligible to work in UK and able to pass an enhanced DBS check.

There is an Occupational Requirement that the post-holder is a committed Christian in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.