

Your Response

The church's leadership think this is an exciting prospect, but it cannot happen without the church family rallying behind it.

We are inviting you to take time over the Summer to consider this proposal prayerfully and ask any questions you may have of the church leadership. In early September, we will ask you to provide a response, using the tear off form supplied.

Below is one example of how this opportunity might become financially viable:

Monthly Pledge	Per Annum
10 people @ £10 =	£1,200
10 people @ £20 =	£2,400
10 people @ £30 =	£3,600
5 people @ £40 =	£2,400
Total = £9,600	
Gift Aid = £2,400	

GRAND TOTAL = £12,000

Naturally, there are an infinite number of ways we could hit the target, including one-off pledges - but this is an illustration based on increased, regular giving.

Young People and Families' Enabler Response Form

I would like to make a one-off gift of in support of this appointment;

Or

I would like to make a regular monthly donation of in addition to my current regular giving, for the next 12 / 24 / 36 months (delete as appropriate) in support of this appointment.

I could / could not (delete as appropriate) make this gift under the Gift Aid Scheme.

NAME / CONTACT DETAILS

.....Tear Here.....

Young People & Families' Enabler



St John's
west wickham

Why are we Considering this Appointment?

Many of you will be aware that we considered the possibility of employing someone in this capacity a few years back. A decision was made not to proceed at that time, as our leadership didn't feel it was financially viable.

We are now better positioned. We have some funds to provide a healthy start, and with a certain commitment from the church family we believe we can employ someone in good faith.

Why this particular role?

It may not trip off the tongue, but the suggested title of the post conveys something specific about what we think is required.

We have an amazing group of volunteers who undertake great work with our young people and their families. This does not signal a shift from a volunteer culture, rather we wish to draw someone into the frame who can encourage, equip and inspire – in other words, 'enable' the work we long to undertake in this area.

It is deliberate that we are opting for someone to focus on both young people (from pre-school to late teens) and their families. We hope to develop a much more integrated approach to church and family life, so that the influence of both is combined to have a greater impact on the development of faith in our young people.

Church Vision

We aim to help anyone and everyone 'do life' with Jesus so that individuals, our local community and beyond can flourish.

Vision for the Post

We are yet to flesh out fully a job description. However, we believe the appointment of someone to this position would be one way in which we press into our church vision. The following are just a few of the elements we hope would emerge from the post:

- The development of a clear vision for our work with young people and their families, which provides a clear pathway for growth in faith;
- Oversight, resourcing and envisioning of our existing young people's groups and their leaders;
- Creative initiatives to respond to the growing number of activities which compete for family time;
- The introduction of a new approach to discipleship of young people that involves and supports the whole family more effectively;
- New but sustainable outreach ventures, which help us turn contact with young people into meaningful relationships with their parents.

How can this Happen?

Employing someone is a significant financial commitment. We have always been clear that we cannot view this as an experiment. Whilst we would expect to find someone who feels 'called' to this work, we have a responsibility towards them and their livelihood. We want to ensure that we have sufficient funds for the full term of the post.

We believe the position warrants the appointment of someone on a full-time basis. We anticipate that we would look to employ someone for an initial period of 3 years, with a view to extending that to a second 3 years term. This is a realistic timeframe to see deep, lasting changes.

Some figures

Our research indicates that the annual cost (including salary, pension, expenses and training) would be about £30k. For this to happen, it would require broad support from the church family.

As hinted, we have made a start. We have received a significant gift we can use, we've managed to secure a grant from a charitable trust, have applied for another, and we have some reserves we could utilise.

Spreading these funds over 3 years, we would still need to raise an additional £10-15k (including Gift Aid) per annum. Overleaf, we have given an example break down as to what that might look like if 35 people were to increase their monthly giving.

