

BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH

Benfleet, Essex SS7 5LH



WHO WE ARE

The Church is a very active one, with some 60 members, a good worshipping congregation each week and has first-rate premises. **Our mission is to be a powerful spiritual force in the community and a visible expression of God's inclusive love.**

The Church itself was refurbished some 15 years ago and a new Welcome Area added to the front. The rest of the premises (including all the halls, kitchen etc) were demolished and new premises constructed 10 years ago with a large and smaller halls, state of the art kitchen and toilet facilities plus a counselling suite and meeting room, plus car parking.

In addition to the usual Church activities – services, bible study etc. - it is used extensively by Church Groups including uniformed groups of Rainbows, Brownies and Guides (50 children), Fusion Youth group for years 3 – 6 (40 children), a playgroup with over 20 members, plus Wives Club, Badminton, Art Group, Women's Fellowship, Ladies Thursday Club, Craft group.

We also host the Mencap Music Man project providing therapy for handicapped young people, a professional counselling service, OACS, meeting four evenings each week, a folk orchestra and we are the South Essex Brain Injury Hub for Headway and provide office and counselling facilities for them and their clients and recently it is being used as well for Long Covid therapy. Other users include Kumon, educational, and National Childbirth Trust – courses for expectant mothers and partners. With all the "outside" groups there is a very good relationship and they all seem to feel part of the Church Family.

The Welcome area is open every day from 10.00 to 12 noon for tea, coffee and a drop-in and on Mondays we have the Hope Group providing an informal lunch facility for people who would otherwise be on their own and recreational activity for people with dementia. We also have Sunday lunches twice each month and a monthly Tuesday lunch as well as coffee mornings for church or charities every Saturday morning.

BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH

Benfleet, Essex SS7 5LH

WHO ARE WE LOOKING TO RECRUIT?

A CHILDREN AND FAMILIES WORKER

The role of the Children and Families Worker at Benfleet Methodist Church is:

- To coordinate with and link to the various children and young people's groups and their families in an attempt to involve them in the life of the Church Family.

Main Responsibilities

- Play an active role in the FUSION Youth Groups on a Friday evening
- Be a member of the 'Link' committee that liaises with existing uniformed groups who meet at the Church
- Develop further links with other youth work in the area
- In conjunction with the Minister, Worship Leaders, local preachers and Church Stewards to engage in 'Fresh Expressions' of Church including 'Messy Church'
- Plan the setting up of a Sunday morning crèche and Sunday School

Key skills

- A committed Christian with a desire for children and their families to come to a knowledge of the love of God and being part of a church family
- Good leadership skills, able to work independently and as part of a team with volunteers
- Enthusiastic, energetic and innovative
- Some experience of organising Children's clubs and family orientated events

Terms and Conditions

- Normal working hours - 20 per week – flexible by agreement
- 3 year appointment (subject to satisfactory probationary period)
- Salary - £13,000 per annum
- 25 days annual leave per year plus public holidays (pro-rated)
- Pension scheme provision in accordance with legislation
- Will require Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Scheme certificate

BENFLEET METHODIST CHURCH

Benfleet, Essex SS7 5LH

Management arrangements

- The Children and Families Worker will have a support Group comprising the Minister, at least one Church Steward and three or four other members with relevant skills drawn from the wider Church, including a representative from the Fusion Youth Management Committee.
- One member of the support group will be designated the role of supervisor to act as the link between the Children and Families Worker and the Church Council, to be available to advise and act as a discreet sounding board and to carry out a yearly appraisal, with regular review meetings
- Training will be available through Methodist and other sources

Applications to: Richard Reeves reeves221@btinternet.com

Closing date 30 June 2022

16 June 2022