

Director of Children's Choir: St Luke's and Christ Church, Chelsea

To apply, please send a CV and covering letter to The Rev'd Dr Sam Hole, St Luke's and Christ Church Parish Office, Sydney Street, London SW3 6NH.

Please provide details of 2 referees. References will be taken up for shortlisted candidates only. Your referees should include your current employer, and someone who can comment on your experience of the liturgical aspects of the role.

Job Description

Job Purpose

The Director of Children's Choir will:

Recruit, train and develop a children's choir to lead and support sung worship at St Luke's and Christ Church, Chelsea, following a repertoire within the Anglican choral tradition.

Work closely with the Rector and the Directors of Music at the two churches (currently Professor Jeremy Summerly and Dr Gareth Wilson) in developing this new ministry, and ensuring that the children's choir is integrated into the life of the parish

In support of developing a choir which reflects the diversity of the local area, build on existing close relationships with local schools, including Christ Church primary school, working closely with staff at the schools to develop a collaborative approach to supporting choristers, thereby ensuring streams of recruitment and mechanisms for referring pupils to the choirs.

Major Responsibilities

1. Train and rehearse the choir weekly during term time.
2. Support the choir in leading worship in the parish: at least one Sunday morning eucharist per month, on occasion for Sunday evensong, and at occasional weekday evening services. The choir will sometimes sing along, sometimes alongside the adult choirs.
3. Direct the choir at engagements away from the parish as these may arise.
4. Work closely with the Rector and Director of Music with regards to the choice of music appropriate to the liturgy.
5. Ensure appropriate pastoral and musical support at rehearsals, including working with clergy to develop team of volunteers to assist.
6. Work closely with parents and carers, encouraging their support of the choirs.
7. Communicate regularly with parents, schools, and the wider parish, promoting the choirs in the community.

8. Have a due regard for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and to follow all associated child protection and safeguarding policies as adopted by the Diocese and parish.

9. Undertake such other reasonable duties that may be required by the Rector and Director of Music.

It is expected that recruiting and training the choir to a sufficient standard to sing at the liturgy will take the first six months of the post holder's appointment. However there should be modest opportunities for the children to sing to others during the first six months.

Person Specification

The successful candidate will:

- Be an able vocal trainer, who can identify potential and develop children with little or no prior experience of choral singing.
- Have excellent musical and teaching skills, and confident keyboard skills.
- Have the ability to work with children and young people from a range of backgrounds, and to command their respect.
- Have a strong desire to give a first class musical education to those who would not necessarily have the opportunity.
- Have the ability to inspire and encourage individuals and groups (through fun and humour as well as musical rigour and discipline) to realise musical potential, and growth as young people within the life of the church.
- Have knowledge and understanding of the place of music within the liturgy, and be sympathetic to the ethos of the Church of England.
- Be an excellent communicator with strong leadership, motivational and organisational skills.
- Have the ability to work collaboratively with others, including musicians, clergy, parents, teachers and parishioners.
- Possess a graduate-level qualification in music or equivalent.

This post is subject to an enhanced DBS check.

The employer is the incumbent and PCC of St Luke's and Christ Church, Chelsea.