



Howick Presbyterian Church

Job Description Children's & Youth Leader

MISSION STATEMENT: To know Christ and make Him known

As a congregation we are committed to Mission both within our own congregations, and also reaching into our local community and beyond to overseas. The Mission we participate in is to see "everyone transformed by the love of Christ." We are committed to being a living witness to Jesus Christ in Howick and beyond, declaring the saving grace of Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit to change lives. We aspire to be: A community of love and friendship, where differences are embraced.

REPORTS TO: The Minister

WORKS WITH: Children and Youth

The main emphasis in this position will be on primary and intermediate school age children and where possible or appropriate, their families.

The position has two main focuses:

- Outreach among children into the community beyond the walls of the Church assisting us to extend the reach of our mission.
- The Christian education of children who are currently involved in the life of the church, enlivening the ministry we currently have.

BACKGROUND:

HPC has a long term commitment to children's and youth ministry. Although current numbers are small, our young people are highly valued in the Church and most find ways to contribute with their time and abilities.

In addition to Sunday programmes, the Church has significant focus on children in its community ministries. This includes Chilton Kindergarten, Mainly Music and Girls' Brigade.

As well as servicing some of its resourcing needs, HPC sees potential for development in the community of a children's outreach. Within a short distance of HPC there are two primary and one intermediate school.

HPC seeks to grow its Church's ministry in these areas:

1. The spiritual growth of young people;
2. Integration of children into the Church's life;
3. The number of people who are engaging with the Church;
4. Supporting the growth of College and University of students and young workers.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

KEY TASKS: Key tasks are the critical activities that will be carried out in order for each outcome to be achieved.

OUTCOMES: These are the reasons why the job exists.

KEY TASKS	EXPECTED OUTCOMES
1. Development Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 50% of time would be in initiating a new community facing ministry. This would involve firstly research and then the development of a programme which reached into the community connecting new people with the Church. Initial research, over the first half of 2017, would involve observation of the local community, discussions with local people within and outside the Church. This might lead to an after school programme, or a holiday programme. The development of relationships with Mainly Music and Chilton families might lead to exploring options for worship involving children outside the Sunday morning time frame (“Messy church” type concept). • Once programme(s) have been decided, from the second half of 2017 the worker would be responsible for their implementation; gaining support for them, trialling them and assessing their effectiveness. • Over time an expectation to assist with the development of funding streams to support the programmes, including support for the Youth and Community Development Trust.
2. Enhancing Existing Work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Running of the primary age Sunday programme (Kings Kids) – with a team. • Talking to the puppets each week, and keeping track of the puppeteers, ensuring there will be a puppet available each week. • Keeping accurate records of children attending weekly, welcoming new children and taking an interest in children who are attending less regularly. • Communicating with parents, grandparents and caregivers on events involving the children’s programme, building relationships with parents, grandparents and caregivers, keeping them informed of events and activities available to them, inviting their involvement, encouraging and resourcing them in the discipling of their children. • The upkeep of children’s packs/children’s corner for when children stay in church during the service. • Work with a team to develop intergenerational worship services that welcome and involve all ages. • Building, encouraging and resourcing volunteer teams to support the ministry. • Overseeing the Youth Ministry providing support and input as needed.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overseeing the Sunday Kindergarten (Kings Kindy) ministry providing support and input as needed. • Support the mentoring and discipleship of children aged 11-15. • Assisting along with the Minister in the Christian education programme at Chilton Kindergarten.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responsible for co-ordinating social events for youth and families. • Assist in the planning of the bi-annual church camp. • Provide support for Mainly Music and Girls Brigade. • Teach Christian Religious Education in Schools Programme if this was a passion area.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

This position would suit someone who has a passion long term for children’s ministry. Skill set could include someone trained as a teacher, social worker, or in community development specialising in children. Specific training in children’s ministry would be an advantage.

The successful applicant would be a valued member of the ministry team and would be included in the development vision and strategy for ministry with children, youth and families.

Would need to:

- Have a strong and growing Christian faith
- Have a love for children demonstrated by an excellent proven record of working with children
- Be innovative, able to start new things and see them running successfully
- Be a people person; caring and encouraging
- Be able to work independently to achieve tasks
- Be able to communicate with parents and wider congregations
- Be able to bring one area of passion or expertise to the position which gives options to the beginning of something new, e.g. music, drama, sports, art, English as a second language.

APPOINTMENT:

This position would be an appointment of the Elders (Session) which is overseen by the Minister on a day by day basis. The successful applicant would be expected to find a suitable external supervisor. Mandatory police vetting is a condition of appointment.

TERM:

Minimum term of contract: Three (3) years

START DATE:

Late January 2017

HOURS OF WORK:

This is a full time position / 40 hours per week which includes Sunday mornings and some evenings during the week. Part time (between half & full time) would also be considered. The successful applicant would be required to attend and participate in weekly Sunday worship.

REMUNERATION:

Based on training and experience.

Vicinity: Salary: \$47,000 plus phone and travel allowance.