

MARESFIELD CHURCH

Children & Families Worker

Parish Profile



PARISH INTRODUCTIONS

The parishes of Maresfield and Nutley are located in the Ashdown Forest, East Sussex. Both are semi-rural parishes joined together in plurality (separately governed but a shared incumbent). Whilst independent in many ways, the churches have a history of working together, including youth and children's work, running Alpha Courses, joint services and prayer ministries. Maresfield Church are looking to employ someone work alongside the congregation to see their church grow. Some of this may be in partnership with Nutley Church, for example, we have run youth groups together in the past.

MARESFIELD

In the 2011 census, Maresfield village had a population of approximately 3,600 people. Since then the village has expanded with new developments. The village has a pub, village shop, Post Office, recreation ground, tennis club, bowls club, gymnastics club and a Costa Coffee. There is a Church of England Primary school and plenty of families living in the village with quite a broad demographic.

The church currently has an average congregation of 40-50 people including up to 12 children, meeting at 11:15am on a Sunday morning. Current ministries include Toddler Praise which runs on a Tuesday morning and our Sunday school, which is run twice a month. We have three home groups and meet to pray on a Monday morning at 9am. New toilets and kitchen have just been completed. The church has a history of running outreach youth groups, youth bible studies and holiday clubs. We have recently established a breakfast club and Cafe on a Wednesday and a Dads and Tots group.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING TO EMPLOY AND WHY?

St Bartholomew's Maresfield has a desire to see more families join their worshipping community. But, first, we would love to have someone help us care for and disciple the families and young people we already have. We're looking to employ someone with a heart for discipling young people, making pastoral connections with parents and helping coordinate the ministries to children and families. We are looking for a children and families worker specifically, because we believe that congregations are grown by reaching parents and encouraging them to follow Jesus.

The successful applicant would need to be a good relationship builder and an intentional evangelist, seeking to make connections and encourage them into the life of the church.

We are not looking for someone to run everything, but to establish ministries, secure them through recruitment and training and then (where appropriate) release these ministries to be led by others. This is so that members of the congregation can play their part in these ministries now and in the years to come. We want to employ someone who is able to work with the people and gifts we have at the moment and not establish things that depend entirely on them.

We have a confidence in Christ to build his church and see people brought into the kingdom. We are looking for someone to partner with us in this precious work. Please see the job description for more information on the role.