

stChad's

WOODSEATS • SHEFFIELD

In partnership with the Centenary Project in the Diocese of Sheffield

This role is employed locally by the parish



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' WORKER

24

Hours per week

£17,472

£14 per hour

5

Year fixed
term contract

ST CHAD'S, WOODSEATS

St Chad's is a church with a warm, family-friendly heart, deeply connected to the Woodseats community. Our central vision is to Celebrate God, Resource His people, and Grow in love and discipleship. This fuels our desire to deepen our own relationship with God and to more widely share the transformative story of Jesus.

We want our work with all ages to flourish, both within our church and as a shining light in the wider community. Children and families are vital to St Chad's and our mission, and we are looking for someone to help us reach out to them both within our church family and in the surrounding community.

Working alongside our enthusiastic team of volunteers, the successful applicant will play a key role in engaging and nurturing children within the life of our church and parish. This will involve building connections with local families, fostering meaningful relationships, and becoming a familiar and trusted presence within the Woodseats community.

The role will also involve developing our existing children's ministries and identifying exciting new opportunities to expand our mission within local schools, preschools, and other children's groups.

We are looking for a passionate Children and Families Worker who can inspire and guide children as they journey towards becoming disciples of Jesus. This will involve creatively using the Bible, sharing its stories, and encouraging children to develop their own conversations with God in diverse and engaging ways.

St Chad's is a vibrant and welcoming church situated in the very heart of Woodseats. Our parish encompasses around 12,000 people, and has a diverse socio-economic mix, evident in the housing that includes terraced homes, semi-detached and detached properties, and council housing. Much of the area is surrounded by green areas, parks and woodland.



Complementing our church building is our busy community hub which is used daily by both church and community groups.

You would be an integral part of our staff team, working alongside our oversight minister, curate, youth worker, administrator and church wardens. You will also work closely with our dedicated team of volunteers who are actively involved in our children's work throughout the week and on Sundays. Our Sunday mornings offer two distinct styles of worship: a traditional service at 9am and a more contemporary service at 11am. Adding to this, once a month we host our Pitch-Up service at 11am, which is more Café-style and gives the opportunity for us to explore the Bible together.

During our 11am service, we provide several groups for children and young people. Our Kingdom Kids group welcomes primary school children, while our occasional Kingdom Kiddies caters to the under-fives. We also have a dedicated Sunday morning youth group for those in Year Six and above. For families with younger children, we have a newly-developed toddler and babies area within the main service, with soft toys and comfortable seating for those wishing to stay in the service.

On Wednesday mornings, our popular Toddler group meets. This vibrant group is for young children and their parents, grandparents or carers - many with no other connection with St Chad's - to chat, make friends and support each other.



Throughout the year, we also host a range of events that draw in families from across the wider community, including an October Light Party, Messy Easter workshop and family fun afternoons.

Our thriving Scouts and Guiding groups see over 160 children and young people attending each week, with many of their leaders connected to our church community. Members of these uniformed organisations occasionally join our Sunday services and are actively encouraged to participate in the broader life of St Chad's.

We also have good relationships with local primary schools and pre-schools which welcome our involvement, and often visit the church for special events. In the past, we have shared Bible stories through Open the Book sessions and led school assemblies, and we are eager to see these relationships grow.

The Woodseats Community Garden, developed on our former church field, offers excellent opportunities to connect with God's creation. Throughout the week, the garden is a vibrant hub, welcoming individuals from across the community.

Our youth worker dedicates his time to those in year six and beyond through our weekly youth group, the Woodseats Double Six Youth Club, and by running School Pastors at Meadowhead School, supported by a committed team of volunteers.

There are various other groups meeting throughout the week for all ages at St Chad's, plus small groups where people meet in homes to study the Bible, pray together and encourage each other. Our thriving Third Age Ministry includes Natter, a Memory Café and various social groups.

At St Chad's, we are a welcoming church striving to live lives grounded in the Word and the Spirit, with a passionate desire to see God's kingdom come. We fully support women in leadership and believe in the active participation of every member in ministry.

Ultimately, our vision for St Chad's is to see our work with children, young people, and their families grow and flourish, both in our church and the wider Woodseats community. We want to be a shining example for children's work in the area, reaching out to share the love and story of Jesus more and more.





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Employment Details:

- o The post covers the parish of St Chad's, Woodseats in Sheffield and is a post funded by a grant from the National Church currently up to the end of 2028 with the potential for further review to 2031.
- o The post is part time and covers 24 hours per week. Some evening and weekend work, including regular Sunday work, will be required.
- o The post is employed locally by the parish of St Chad's, Woodseats but is part of The Centenary Project Network.

What is the Centenary Project?

The Centenary Project was set up to equip local churches, enabling them to effectively engage, nurture and disciple a new generation of children, young people and families.

The Centenary Project supports parishes and their workers to be missional in their activities, so that many more people connect with our churches, especially children and young people.

How does the Centenary Project Work?

Over the last 15 years, the trend has been that youth workers and children's workers leave their jobs for a number of reasons;

- o Lack of objectives - unclear what their role is.
- o Poor line management - incumbents unskilled in managing staff and volunteers.
- o Too inward looking - not enough mission-focus.
- o Overworked and underpaid - feeling unappreciated and undervalued.
- o No support or network to draw on.
- o Money runs out - post not sustainable.

The Centenary Project is tackling all of these issues head on, and seeing workers commit for the long-term, happy in their work, feeling supported and encouraged by the network, seeing a future in youth or children's ministry and feeling secure in their roles.

How are Centenary Project Workers Supported?

Support for workers is essential. The help, guidance and encouragement that's continually provided to Centenary Project workers is having a huge impact on the success of youth and children's ministry across the Diocese.

The Centenary Project works with parishes, incumbents, the Diocese and other workers and team members to provide each of the following areas of support and opportunities for ongoing growth.



JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE	Children and Families' Worker
EMPLOYER	St Chad's, Woodseats PCC
RESPONSIBLE TO	Rev Jon Hidden & Centenary Project
REPORTING TO	Line Manager, Emily Hopkinson

Statement of Main Terms

This is a post which is funded by a grant from the National Church currently up to the end of 2028. There will be further opportunity for us to review and extend the role if further funding is available with the current expectation that this could be until 2031.

Regular reviews on this will take place. We have a strong record for applications and grants, but we are not in a position to give guarantees.

1 GENERAL SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITIES

The key responsibilities of the role are:

- 1.1 To work alongside and help grow St Chad's team of volunteers who will help to engage and nurture children and their families in the life of the church and wider community.
- 1.2 To develop links with local families, building relationships and becoming a key person within the local community.
- 1.3 To be part of the Centenary Project Network, an initiative of the Diocese of Sheffield.

2 KEY TASKS

- 2.1 To develop the missional potential of current ministries at St Chad's and discern new opportunities to grow mission among children and families in the church and wider community.
- 2.2 To work with St Chad's children leaders and the Pitch-Up worship team to expand and develop existing all-age opportunities.
- 2.3 To have experience of or be open to training on working with children with additional needs in St Chad's church and parish.

2.4 To comply with relevant safeguarding and health and safety guidelines, including ensuring compliance by volunteers and completing appropriate risk assessments.

2.5 To meet monthly with other Children's Workers in the Centenary Project Network for learning and support.

2.6 To work towards and set achievable objectives and record measured outcomes.

2.7 To record and submit quarterly statistics on group attendance using the Centenary Project statistics system.

2.8 To undertake such other duties as may reasonably be required commensurate with the responsibilities of the post.

Application Information:

Hours: 24 hours per week

Salary: £17,472 (£14 per hour)

Contract: 5 year fixed-term

Closing Date: Sunday 31st August 2025 (midnight)

Interview Date: Wednesday 24th September 2025

For an informal chat about this role or for an application form please contact:

Tim Hopkinson - tim@stchads.org.

For more information about The Centenary Project, visit:

www.centenaryproject.org.uk

Person Specification

Attributes	Essential	Desireable	Method of Assessment
Education and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good standard • of written English (GCSE English or equivalent). • Experience of work with children and families in a church context and or relevant training. • A willingness to undertake training relevant to the role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A nationally recognized qualification in children's work. • Core C of E Safeguarding training and/or a willingness to undertake further safeguarding training such as safe recruitment 	Application documentation
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Active member • of a Christian church.* • First-hand experience of leading or co-ordinating activities for children, young people and families that are appropriate for the context. • Experience of • working within a team. • Experience of working with and nurturing volunteers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Experience of working in a local church context. • Experience and understanding of Fresh Expressions of Church and pioneer ministry. • Experience of working in schools. • Experience of working as part of a staff team. 	Application documentation and interview

Knowledge and Skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A clear understanding of children and young people and principles of children's work.• Working knowledge and commitment to safeguarding and promoting the safety and welfare of children.• An awareness of• practices for when working with children/ young people with additional needs.• Excellent skills in direct work with children and young people.• Literate in IT• including use of social media and word processing.• Good people and• communication skills, appropriate for connecting with children and families,• interacting with the church family and reaching the community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Specific gift(s) or interest(s) that could be a focus for attracting children and families.	Application documentation, interview and practical exercise
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Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to speak • with sincerity about matters of Christian faith in an informed, effective and non-judgmental way. • Ability to • disciple children in regards to reading the bible and prayer. • A mature faith • in the Lord Jesus, modelling a life of faith and godliness. • Able to relate • effectively with a wide spectrum of people, both adults and children & young people. • Able to reflect • and be open to constructive criticism and to learning from others • Able to • communicate effectively in person and in writing. • Able to • motivate self and others and to manage use of time. • Able to work as • part of a team. • Able to • initiate: develop and evaluate projects. • Able to present • a strong Christian role model. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to set and work to goals without direct supervision. • Able to work in a range of social and cultural contexts. 	Application documentati on, interview and practical exercise
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Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Satisfactory Enhanced DBS disclosure. • Commitment to engage in professional and spiritual development. Have access to appropriate transport for travel within the area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Willingness to receive spiritual accompaniment 	Application documentation and interview
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* Given the nature and context of the work it is an occupational requirement that the post holder should be a communicant member of the Church of England or a full member of a church within Churches Together in Britain and Ireland in order to fulfil the main purpose of the post. This post is therefore exempt under Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010