



St Peter's Halliwell

Youth and Children's Ministry Lead

Working Hours: 37.5 hours per week, full-time

Salary: £27,000 - £31,000 (depending on experience), plus pension contributions

Contract Term: Initially 3-years

Start Date: To be agreed, from January 2027 onwards

ABOUT ST PETER'S HALLIWELL

St Peter's Halliwell is an Anglican parish led by the Vicar, Alan Saunders. We have a passion to see everyone flourish and fulfil their God-given potential as disciples of Christ. Our vision is to 'Transform Bolton together in Jesus' name through bringing the good news of the gospel to all those who live and work in Bolton.

St Peter's is a flourishing parish of around 500 people. We host 6 services each Sunday, plus a mid-week service, across 4 worship centres located at St Peter's Church, St Andrew's Johnson Fold, Barrow Bridge Mission, and Smithills. There is a diverse mix of age and social backgrounds with a high number of families. The congregations include around 100 children and young people.

We seek to grow as a potential Resource Church in the Diocese of Manchester with a vision to plant churches, raise up leaders and serve the wider church in the areas of worship, discipleship and mission. You can read more information about the church at: **stpetersparish.info**.

At St Peter's we love welcoming families and children of all ages. Our hope is to build a community that supports parents and carers; we also hope to create an environment of fun where children and young people can make friends, flourish in their relationship with Jesus, and learn to share His love with their friends and communities.

Our children's ministry is called **Lighthouse** and runs at 3 of our worship centres on Sunday twice each month. In addition, we have a pre-school group called **Twinklers** at St Peter's Church. The work is supported by an amazing team of volunteers who are committed to seeing children grow in their spiritual lives.

We have a variety of midweek groups for children and young people.

- **Little Wiggles** at St Peter's Parish Centre and **Tots on Tuesdays** at St Andrew's Hope Centre are our baby and toddler groups.

- **Ignite** at St Peter's Parish Centre is a club running fun-packed sessions for Key Stage 2 aged children.
- **Tread** meets at St Peter's Parish Centre and is a thriving group for high school aged young people.
- We have two **Discipleship Groups** that meet fortnightly, one for girls and one for boys of high school age.
- We are also taking steps to set up a new midweek group called **Spark** for Key Stage 1 aged children.

We host regular **social events**, such as the annual Light Party, that welcome families from the community to help children introduce their friends to their church family. We take our Tread youth group to DTI (Dreaming the Impossible), a youth gathering at Staffordshire Showground each year.

St Peter's is a registered centre for the delivery of the **Duke of Edinburgh Award** scheme. We have a volunteer team who enable young people to work towards these awards every year.

Our passion is to mentor and involve young people in all aspects of church life. We have a youth band at St Peter's Church, young leaders volunteer in many of our children's groups, and young people work with our tech team to run AV at some of our services.

We partner with the **Places Project**, a 5-year project led by Manchester Diocese to pioneer innovative projects to support churches in reaching out to children and young people. One of their team are placed part-time with St Peter's, they are part of the chaplaincy team at Canon Slade CE High School and lead our Tread youth group. Other team members support our Ignite children's club and activities in our three local primary schools.

We partner with organisations to enhance our outreach to children and young people. Last year we had a mission team of three young adults from Pais UK based at St Peter's. We have recently hosted mission visits by the Anglican Youth Fellowship Band of Uganda, and the Message Trust; we are making plans for further visits in the coming months.

ABOUT THE ROLE

We are recruiting for a visionary, pioneering **Youth and Children's Ministry Lead** who has a passion for engaging children and young people from the local area, as well as discipling those within the congregation.

This person will oversee our youth and children's work across St Peter's parish. They will manage our fantastic team of volunteers, and provide an overarching vision for how children and young people can encounter Jesus, be formed into his likeness and share the love of God to those in the wider community. They will work with our young people to give them a clear voice and a greater opportunity to influence the culture of our parish. They will oversee and encourage our culture of care for children and young people, including support with initiatives such as mental health first aid.

We're looking for someone who is passionate in cultivating a culture of evangelism amongst children and young people. You will pioneer new projects and strengthen existing ones, engaging with children and young people in the local community and reaching them with the good news of Jesus.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Oversight and Leadership of the St Peter's Children and Young People's Ministry

- Overseeing all areas and leading some of our children's and young people's Ministry from ages 0-18.
- Forming and cultivating a visionary approach towards youth and children's ministry at St Peter's.
- Identifying, training and nurturing our team volunteers.
- Line-managing and developing the team, working in collaboration with them to deliver the best programmes and activities.
- Overseeing formation and discipleship amongst children and young people and looking for opportunities to nurture faith.
- Collaborating with the congregations and worship leaders to develop all-age and children's worship.
- Collaborating with the Places Project team to make the most of opportunities for outreach to children and young people.
- Working alongside the Safeguarding Officer to ensure that the Diocese of Manchester and St Peter's safeguarding policies and procedures are being correctly implemented.
- Raising any safeguarding concerns as soon as they arise.

Children and Young People's Outreach

- Pioneering and establishing projects which serve and reach local young people and children with the Good News of Jesus.
- Establishing and building relationships between St Peter's and local primary and high schools, and exploring evangelistic opportunities.
- Overseeing community outreach events through the year, such as at Christmas and at Easter.

- Overseeing the running of our midweek groups.
- Overseeing children's activities at larger St Peter's events, such as the Parish Weekend Away, Lighthouse United events and parish-wide services.
- Providing pastoral support to children and young people, supporting families and managing pastoral issues as they arise in partnership with the wider pastoral team.

WHAT WE OFFER

- We want you to love working at St Peter's, to feel well supported, and to flourish in the role.
- We will respect your free time as we recognise that everyone needs time away from work.
- We will provide a laptop, mobile phone and office space in our well-equipped parish centre.
- We hope you will join our worshipping community here, but we recognise that you might want occasional Sundays away as an opportunity for refreshment and to gain from experience in other settings.
- You will receive opportunities for continued employee development through training courses, mentoring and access to a training budget to support your development.
- Funding will be available for learning resources.
- You will have opportunities to take periodic retreat days each year.
- Line management will be provided by the Vicar, Alan Saunders.
- We will help arrange access to a spiritual mentor to provide non-managerial support.
- You will receive mutual support as a valued member of our staff team. Participating in the life of our staff team including regular staff meetings, prayer and worship, days away and staff retreats.
- All our staff work together to provide occasional support to other parish events where required.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Essential skills and experience

- Proven ability to lead, communicate a clear vision and influence culture.
- Training and experience in good safeguarding practice.
- Experience in teaching/leading groups of children and young people. The ideal candidate would have proven ability to lead children's and young people's ministry, formal training or other transferable skills.
- Ability to create a dynamic and fun environment for children and young people of different ages and backgrounds.
- Experience recruiting, inducting and managing teams of volunteers.
- The desire to reach children and young people outside of the St Peter's community.

- Commitment to the spiritual and emotional development of children and young people and the ability to communicate biblical truth in a fun and relevant way.
- Excellent communication skills, and confidence in interacting with parents, carers and volunteers.
- Ability to recruit, lead and pastor a range of volunteer teams.
- A proactive individual, with an ability to work on their own initiative and manage their workload effectively.
- Adaptability to new opportunities and unexpected challenges that can occur in church life.
- Good organisational skills and comfort within a team office environment.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- Computer literate with Google Suite and Microsoft Office packages (e.g. Gmail, Google Docs, Word, Excel, Email).

Desirable skills and experience

- Qualification in youth or children's work, theology or other relevant area.
- Experience in pioneering new outreach projects for children and families.
- Experience working with local schools.
- Experience of managing a budget.
- Driving license and car usage.

Occupational Requirement

This role has an Occupational Requirement to be a Christian, as permitted under Schedule 9, Part 1, of the Equality Act 2010.

Hours of Work and Holidays

37.5 hours (fulltime) per week, including Sundays, some evenings and occasional Saturdays as required. 23 days holiday per year, plus an additional 3 taken at Christmas, plus bank holidays.

Safeguarding

As our commitment to Safeguarding, the role requires applicants to demonstrate a commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults of all cultural backgrounds and have a good awareness of relevant policies and procedures, statutory legislation and guidance.

Right to Work in the UK

To apply for this role, you need to have the Right to Work in the UK. We are unable to offer Visa sponsorship at this time.

Start date

To be agreed depending on any notice period, ideally anytime from January 2027 onwards.

TO APPLY FOR THE POST

Please send a completed application form and cover letter explaining why you are a good fit for the role via email to: **alan@stpetersparish.info**.

Deadline for applications: Tuesday 1 December 2026.

For any further information about the role please do not hesitate to contact the Vicar, Alan Saunders 07767 643444, alan@stpetersparish.info.