

**APPLICATION INFORMATION**

**Children’s and Families Ministry Co-ordinator**

**Salary**: £25,000 - £28,000

**Status**: Full Time, for an initial period of 3 years

**Closing Date**: tba

**Location**: Lerwick, Shetland

We are actively seeking a person to develop and lead our children and family’s ministry covering children from birth to primary 7, their parents and carers. The post holder will build on existing activities and establish new ways of working with children and families; review the current ministry offered; and assess and define the longer-term staffing needs in this critical area of church life.

Our Vision is to ‘***Radiate God’s Glory; Teach God’s Truth; and Reach the World’***.

This is an exciting opportunity to join a Church that is committed to developing both its ministry to our local community as well as enhancing our church life with our members.  It is an opportunity to shape a generation.

This post is offered on a fixed-term basis for 3 years and will be subject to PVG Scheme membership. Full Time hours are 35 per week.

**Team Player:**

Lerwick Baptist has a Pastor who completes the majority of the teaching and preaching. The post-holder must be comfortable in a team situation, making a positive and supportive contribution within the Pastoral Team. The post-holder will work closely with the Leadership Team, operating within the direction they set for the Church, and with the Youth Ministry Team, seeking to develop continuity between the two ministries.

**Theology:**

The post-holder should be a baptised believer who is aligned to the theology and principles of Lerwick Baptist Church as outlined in the church’s constitution and the church’s Statement of Faith: <http://lerwickbaptist.org.uk/what-we-believe/>

**Strategic overview:**

Lerwick Baptist has for many years had a volunteer-led ministry to children. The post-holder will commence with a strategic review of youth ministries in the Church, and the support provided to volunteers. Throughout the period of the post, the post-holder will provide overall co-ordination for this ministry.

**Working with children:**

The successful candidate will be responsible for leading and developing ministry with our existing children’s groups and their families and reaching out to families beyond our current circle, developing personal relationships and nurturing their faith in Jesus Christ.

We are looking for someone committed to living out their Christian faith and modelling this to those with whom you work.  You will be passionate about offering the gospel to all and be creative in ensuring the inclusion of all our children, their families and their friends. You will also appreciate the importance of teamwork within our church and you will contribute to the wider mission and outreach.

The post-holder will have a heart for children and families’ ministry and will be comfortable and competent in teaching and working with children and their parent(s)/carer(s), and will examine the content and context of what the children are taught, and the other activities and events that form part of the ministry. To this end a qualification relevant to the post is desirable but by no means essential and so candidates with evidence of considerable relevant experience will also be considered.

**Supporting parents:**

Recognising the challenges faced by Christian parents in seeking to raise their children in a secular world which appears increasingly hostile to the gospel, the post-holder will support parents in nurturing their children in the Christian faith, and will, in partnership with the Pastor and pastoral team provide pastoral care for all families connected to the children’s work. The post-holder will partner with parents both in terms of helping to equip parents for the task of sharing their faith with their children, and ensuring the parents are involved with and invested in the children’s ministry in Lerwick Baptist.

**Supporting leaders:**

Children’s ministry in Lerwick Baptist has been solely run by volunteers for many years. The post-holder will support and encourage volunteer leaders, providing training, and promoting children’s ministry within Lerwick Baptist, encouraging others to become involved.

**Local Profile:**

Shetland is an island community with the main town of Lerwick having around 7000 people; with good shops, excellent leisure facilities and two Primary Schools and a Secondary School. There are good transport links by air to a number of cities on the Scottish Mainland and a daily ferry to Aberdeen.

Lerwick Baptist is one of the larger evangelical fellowships in the islands. The church was established in 1840 and we moved to our new building in 2011, located within a new housing scheme on the outskirts of Lerwick. We have close ties with the other Baptist Churches in the islands and with other denominations through the Islands.

**Job Profile**

* To disciple and nurture LBC’s current children to grow in their faith and in their Christian life.
* To lead and develop our current children’s work with our existing team of volunteers, and to develop new initiatives.
* To work with, equip and encourage our Church families.
* To develop engaging faith-based activities for children. As part of this, explore the possibility of Holiday Clubs and After school clubs.
* To develop and implement a plan for children’s outreach in our island community. As part of this, explore the possibilities of being involved in local schools through Scripture Union or other Christian Youth Organisations.
* To initiate and lead other discipleship ministries among families As part of this, explore the possibility of parenting training courses and support groups for parents and carers.
* To provide pastoral care for volunteers.
* To work in partnership with the other ministry teams to encourage all age church activity and facilitate integration of children and their families into the church.
* To work alongside other children’s ministries and evangelical churches on the island to encourage and enhance children’s ministry throughout Shetland.

**Personal Attributes**

* A committed Christian, called to Christian service, with a heart for families and mission, and experience of working in this area.
* Good communication skills with people of all ages, including one to one support; leading groups; and online communication skills.
* Experience of effectively leading teams.
* A team player who is equally happy working independently.
* An ability to share ideas and inspire others.
* Good planning, organisational and time management skills; a willingness to work flexibly, including unsociable working hours.
* Up to date knowledge, or willingness to be trained in child protection.

**General**

* Committed to setting aside time each week to spend in prayer.
* Ready to attend Sunday services at LBC and take a full part in the life of the church.
* Be regularly involved in leading aspects of Sunday services (specific aspects depend on gifting).
* Consult and liaise regularly with members of the church leadership team.
* Current driving licence.

**Care and oversight**

* Appropriate remuneration would be agreed (as well as expenses).
* We would assist with the search for suitable accommodation if required.
* You would be accountable to the church members and would report to the Pastor and other members of the Leadership Team, agreeing a timetable for regular meetings.
* Additionally, you would meet regularly with an agreed mentor for care and accountability.
* There would be an annual review of role and circumstances.
* A suitable development/training plan would be agreed within the first 6 months of employment.

For details about Lerwick Baptist Church, please visit our website at [www.lerwickbaptist.org.uk](http://www.lerwickbaptist.org.uk)

For further information relating to this appointment, or to register an interest in applying, please

contact the Secretary, David McQueen: Tel 07919 622 197; email: [lbcsecretary@hotmail.co.uk](file:///C:\Users\david\Documents\LBC\Church%20Policies\Staff%20Handbook\lbcsecretary@hotmail.co.uk) or the Pastor, Pete Dale: Tel: 01595 693854; email: [peterrdale@me.com](mailto:peterrdale@me.com)

It is a genuine occupational requirement, under Schedule 9, part 1 of the Equality Act 2010, that the post holder demonstrates a personal faith in Jesus Christ.