



**Pioneer Evangelist –
Children and Families
Application Pack**

St. Helier Centre of Mission

Built as a garden city in the 1920s and 1930s, the St Helier Estate in Sutton is now recognised as having high levels of deprivation, unemployment, single parents, elderly people and people with long-term disabling illness. 31% of all households with children are lone-parent households. Large parts of the parish are amongst the 20% most deprived neighbourhoods in the country. The centre of mission's focus is to bring Christian hope and life to the community.

St Helier Centre of Mission (formerly known as North Sutton CoM) has been reaching out to the St Helier Estate in London since it was launched in April 2021.

After spending time getting to know the community and listening to their needs, the team launched an exciting array of activities. The team believe God is calling them to meet people at their point of need and to be the fragrance of Christ amongst them.

Pioneer Evangelist Role

The Pioneer Evangelist will be part of the St. Helier Centre of Mission, focussing on Children and Families work for 22.5 hours per week during term time only, to cover maternity leave, and supported and line-managed by the Lead Evangelist.

The main areas of work will include the following:

Primary Schools Work

The Centre of Mission has established links with three primary schools in the Parish of St Helier. Work with these schools has included weekly and termly assemblies, school visits to the church and RE lessons, as well as engaging with schools in community events.

St Helier Youth

St Helier Youth was launched in 2022 and runs as an open youth club to local young people. The group runs every Thursday evening during term-time and welcomes around 20-25 young people (aged 10-14) each week. Most of the young people who attend have no other connection with the church. The team currently share a short message based on a Biblical theme at the end of each session, and are exploring ways to develop this further.

'Come and See'

A big part of the life of the Centre of Mission is the worshipping community that gathers together at St Peter's Church on a Sunday morning. Around 50 people of all ages attend the service each week, many of whom are from unchurched backgrounds and almost all are from the surrounding estate. The Pioneer Evangelist will lead the children's group twice a month and be part of the team leading the monthly all-age service.

Other projects within the Centre of Mission

Youth Discipleship and Secondary Schools Work

The Community Pastoral Worker runs a weekly youth discipleship group for older teenagers. He also works with a local schools charity, Sutton Schoolwork, to run a Christian Union in the local boys' secondary school.

Community Cafe

Every week the team run a free coffee morning, where partners from the local council and NHS also attend to give free health and money/benefits advice. The group are also exploring how they might run a bereavement group in conjunction with their coffee morning.

Art for Wellbeing

Launched in 2024, Art for Wellbeing is now a registered Fresh Expression of Church and meets on a Thursday morning. After a reflection from the Bible, the group are guided as they complete a painting based on the biblical theme for that week. Exhibitions of the artwork are held each term, where family and friends come to celebrate the artwork produced.

Alpha

The team run Alpha at least twice a year, at different times, for different people groups. The most recent Alpha Courses ran for the following groups: those already in attendance at 'Art for Wellbeing'; a group for mums and their babies/toddlers; a group of young people new to church; and a group of adults exploring baptism. All those who attend an Alpha Course are offered the chance to join a 'Post-Alpha' Discipleship Group.

Although members of our church community may hold a range of views, our church leadership team maintains a biblically rooted, traditional perspective on marriage and sexuality. Any serving in leadership with children is expected to honour and respect this teaching in their role.

Job Description

Job Title:	Pioneer evangelist – Children and Families (Maternity cover, Part-time, 22.5 hours per week, term time only)
Location:	St Helier Centre for Mission, St Helier Parish, London
Responsible To:	Lead Evangelist & Vicar St Helier Centre of Mission
In collaboration with:	Schools, local agencies and churches, including Sutton Schools work
Accountable To:	Regional Development Officer Church Army Diocesan Bishop through his representatives (The Bishop of Croydon/Archdeacon of Reigate)
Purpose:	To bring Good News to the people of St Helier Parish, especially children, young people and their families finding the most appropriate ways to introduce the Christian faith and nurture it as commitment grows.
Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To bring Good News to the people of the St Helier Estate finding the most appropriate ways to introduce the Christian faith and nurture it as commitment grows.2. Working in collaboration with schools, agencies, and churches, to create the circumstances in which children, young people and families are enabled and empowered to make holistic improvements to their lives.3. To develop appropriate and innovative expressions of worshipping communities in response to the needs of children, young people, and their families.4. As part of the St Helier Centre of Mission, to create a community in which doing, advocating, resourcing, and enabling evangelism is a shared way of life.5. To contribute to and further the work and witness of the Church Army Mission Community.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND TASKS:

1 To bring Good News to the people of the St Helier Estate finding the most appropriate ways to introduce the Christian faith and nurture it as commitment grows.

1.2 To become a familiar and trusted presence among children, young people, and families on the St Helier Estate

1.3 By sharing the Christian faith through words and action, to awaken the spirituality of children, young people, and families in the St Helier Parish.

1.4 To create opportunities for fresh expressions of Christian community to form in ways that are appropriate to children, young people and families who have had no previous engagement with church.

1.5 To lead, coordinate and develop groups, discipling people so that their faith deepens and their confidence to express it to their peers grows.

2. Working in collaboration with schools, agencies, and churches, to create the circumstances in which children, young people and families are empowered and enabled to make holistic improvements to their lives.

2.1 To pursue and develop working relationship with local schools, Sutton Schools Work, and other agencies to seek life-enhancing ways to serve individuals and families.

2.2 In partnership with others, organise activities in the Centre of Mission which promote physical, social, and spiritual health amongst Children, young people, and their families in the Parish of St Helier.

2.3 To identify, recruit, train, and support volunteers so that they can share in and sustain this mission.

3. To develop appropriate and innovative expressions of worshipping communities in response to the needs of children, young people, and their families.

3.1 Lead age-appropriate Faith Exploration groups for children and young people who attend activities and groups at the centre of Mission and find ways to connect them with the spiritual life of the centre of mission and church.

4. As part of the St Helier Centre for Mission, to create a community in which doing, advocating, resourcing, and enabling evangelism is a shared way of life.

- 4.1 To meet, pray, eat, learn, and serve as a Centre of Mission, with a life of such attractiveness that increasing numbers of local Christians are drawn into the mission of God, and to model Evangelism in a way which inspires others.
- 4.2 To inform the line manager (lead evangelist) on a timely basis of progress and developments, difficulties and risks relating to this mission.
- 4.3 With the line manager (lead evangelist) to work out a devotional discipline that enables effective ministry, including prayer, Bible study.

General Responsibilities:

- 1. To undertake other duties as outlined by the line manager which are commensurate with the post.
- 2. To be conversant with and work within the procedures and practices of The Diocese of Southwark, Church Army, and the Church of England.
- 3. To attend regular supervision meetings with the line manager
- 4. To attend of training courses offered or approved by Church Army, the Diocese of Southwark, or the line manager.
- 5. To undertake and regularly update assessments of the risks associated with the project, and to take steps to manage and reduce the risk.
- 6. To comply with all current safeguarding legislation, the regulations of the Diocese of Southwark and Church Army's Safer Ministry policy.
- 7. To act in the best interests of The Diocese of Southwark, Church Army, the and the Centre of Mission at all times

Role Requirements

The following sets out what we are looking for in the post holder. As you apply for the post and submit your application, please make sure you evidence with good clear examples how you meet the criteria below. All aspects of the person specification will be assessed via the application form, interview, and selection process, and within pre-employment check (e.g. references).

Essential	Desirable
Attributes	
A burning desire to see people of all ages come to a living faith in Jesus Christ	
A strong commitment to Evangelism in both word and deed, with a demonstrable ability to communicate the faith effectively to children and young people outside the church	
A person of prayer, robust spirituality, and self-discipline	
Models the values of Church Army	
Collaborative approach to relationships and ministry	
Knowledge, qualifications and understanding	
Sound understanding of the importance of safeguarding and accompanying process and procedures	Experience of developing and administering safeguarding policies and procedures within in an outer urban estate church setting
Understanding of what is needed to pioneer a Christian group among children and young people with no Christian or Church background	
Ability to understand and engage with the distinctive issues of everyday life and church in an outer urban estate setting	Experience of having worked successfully with children and young people within an outer urban estate setting.
Understanding of how to enthuse and develop volunteers	Experience of identifying, recruiting, and developing volunteers
Understanding of, and enthusiasm for, schools work	Experience of engaging in schools ministry
Experience	
Experience of responding to the spiritual needs of unchurched children and young people and nurturing them as Christians.	Experience of having pioneered a Christian group within a context of young people with no Christian or Church background

Skills and abilities	
Good organisational and communications skills	
Good admin and IT skills - Microsoft	
Other	
Willingness to work flexible hours including evenings and weekends	

OUTLINE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Salary	£18,098.40 (£30,164 FTE, pro rata)
Location	St. Helier Parish, London
Hours	12 months maternity cover, Part-time, 22.5 hours per week, term time only) Working hours and rotas are subject to change by the organisation as required, based on operational/service need, though we try not to do this frequently. Some flexibility in working hours is expected.
Pension	Church Army is an auto enrolment employer. If you are eligible for pension contributions, you will be enrolled into a qualifying scheme and 5% pension contributions of qualifying earnings will be made by the employer.
Annual Leave	247.5 hours of paid leave inclusive of public bank holidays pro rata'd to contracted hours.
Probation Period	6 months
Contract Type	12 months fixed term maternity cover
Notice Period	4 Weeks (after probation period)
DBS	<p>This post is subject to an enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check and compliant with safeguarding policies and procedures. Safeguarding training will be required.</p> <p>Everyone in Church Army whether a staff member, volunteer, Evangelist, Evangelist in Training or Licenced Waterways Chaplain is responsible for making sure that Church Army has a safe and healthy safeguarding culture.</p>

	We are committed to protecting the vulnerable and ensuring the highest possible safeguarding standards. We expect everyone in Church Army to be familiar and comply with our Safer Ministry Policy, undergo any safer recruitment processes, and report any concerns or behaviours they don't think are right to a member of the safeguarding team: safeguarding@churcharmy.org , or someone they trust.
Occupational Requirement	This post is subject to an Occupational Requirement under the provisions made in the Equality Act 2010 that the post holder has an active faith in Jesus. The successful candidate must be in agreement with the vision and values of Church Army.

WHAT MAKES US CHURCH ARMY

Our Vision

For everyone everywhere to encounter God's love and be empowered to transform their communities through faith shared in words and action.

See our [We Are Church Army](#) video.

Our Values

Everything we do is underpinned by our GRACEUP values:



Generous - We believe God is generous and we want to model that generosity to others.



Risk-taking - We have a long heritage as a pioneering movement, taking calculated risks and giving our staff permission to try new things.



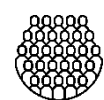
Accountable - We are accountable to God and others, and we want to be reliable and responsible to high professional standards.



Collaborative - We are committed to partnering with others who share our values; we believe collaboration enhances the potential and outcomes of our work.



Expectant - We are hopeful, expecting God to do new things through our frontline work and the Church Army community.



Unconditional - We believe God loves everyone and every person is significant in His eyes. We serve anyone regardless of their age, gender, race, sexuality, faith, ability, status, or circumstances.



Prayerful - We listen to God through prayer, and we want to be obedient to Him. We want to be like Jesus in all we do.

Working with Us

We aspire to see our teams reflect the communities they serve, and to have a diversity of people and views reflected across our organisation. We are a Christian charity working with people of all faiths and none. We ask that our team, where being a Christian is not a requirement, to respect and be sympathetic to our history, work, vision, and values.

We welcome and encourage job applications from people of all backgrounds. We particularly welcome applications from candidates from black and ethnic minority backgrounds. We are an equal opportunities employer and we do not discriminate on the basis of any characteristic, including those protected by the Equality Act.

Church Army staff have access to a wide range of benefits, and you can find some of these listed on our [website](#) below our vacancies.



APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply, please submit an application form which is available to download from our website: www.churcharmy.org and from the advert for this post.

Applications should be sent to: recruitment@churcharmy.org

Deadline: 12noon Wednesday 28 January 2026

Interview date: Week commencing 9 February 2026

What to expect from our Recruitment Process:

- Email your completed application form, **in word format**, to recruitment@churcharmy.org
- One of our team will acknowledge your application
- Applications are shortlisted against the person specification
- You will be contacted as to whether you have been invited to interview

Offers of employment are made subject to:

- Evidence of your eligibility to work in the UK
- A DBS check
- Two satisfactory references
- Successful completion of a probationary period

References are usually only requested once an offer has been made. We will ask for your permission before seeking any references.

For more information about Church Army please visit: www.churcharmy.org