**Understanding the context and laying out the vision**

*A note from Phil Harris – Vicar of St Peter’s Morley*

Thanks for taking a look at this exciting role!

I arrived as Vicar at St Peter’s at Easter 2020 with a mandate, backed by the PCC, to lead St Peter’s in reaching out to Morley with the good news of Jesus.

The first step was to prayerfully agree upon the vision we felt God was giving us for the future of the church and state our commitment to ministry to children and young people. As St Peter’s Morley we want to be:

*“A healthy, growing, fruitful community of faith*

*Inspiring and equipping this generation and the next to follow Jesus in Morley”*

We want to live out this vision by:

*Sharing God’s love*

*Praying for renewal*

*Making Disciples of Jesus*

St Peter’s has a history of fruitful ministry to children and young people, but this has been largely dormant in recent years. To be clear, when I arrived here 6 months ago, there was very little in terms of provision for children and young people.

We are already making progress. We have reshaped our online Sunday worship to engage with younger children and families. We have built on the already positive relationships with the three primary schools in the parish, including sending recorded content for school assemblies. We have just started a monthly Sunday afternoon service called 4TheFamily - a creative, dynamic worship gathering for kids and their grownups.

This appointment is the next exciting step in the process for us and has been backed enthusiastically by the PCC and wider church family. I’m looking for an experienced colleague to spearhead our ministry to the next generation. Whilst we have begun to lay the foundations, this is a job for someone who is inspired by the challenge of building ministry from the ground up. If this sounds exciting to you then I would love to hear from you.

Having a background in work with children and youth, I am personally committed to supporting, encouraging and resourcing whoever God calls to this exciting role. If you would like to get in contact to chat before putting in an application, then please do not hesitate.

God bless,

Phil

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