

Director of Music at St George the Martyr, Wash Common in the Benefice of St George and St John, Newbury.

Section 1 – Job Purpose

The post holder will play a key role in developing music in the life of the church and the wider life of the parish. This will include providing music for services and for other occasions at St George's, building on, and adding to, our existing musical provision.

We are a thriving church in the Anglican tradition in the heart of South Newbury, catering to all age groups. We strive to be inclusive and welcoming to all and to be a positive force within our community. We want our music to be of a high quality, whether it be contemporary or ancient, drawing on the best of a living tradition. Our music should reflect the lectionary and mark the seasons, enticing and encouraging congregational participation.

The church has a fine 2-manual organ by JW Walkers & Sons which was rebuilt and expanded in 2016, set within a fantastic acoustic. The church is always warm thanks to ground-source heat pumps which makes rehearsals, services and events comfortable all year round.

Current practice includes a Sunday morning Eucharist and Friday evening rehearsal for our SATB choir, as well as occasional Evensongs and additional seasonal and special musical services and events; we also have other talented musicians within our congregation and these may participate in services including during an All-Age Service once a month. We are very open to how all this might develop in the future.

Section 2 – Key Responsibilities *(this list is indicative not exhaustive)*

- Lead music elements within services to support the worship of the whole church (including any live-streamed and online services)
- Coach and support musicians of all levels within the congregation and community
- Play the organ for services and church hosted events; occasional offices are paid separately
- Lead choir rehearsals and any other rehearsals as necessary
- Work with the Vicar on choosing the hymns and music that best support the worship
- Be a member of the Worship and Liturgy Working Group
- Be a point of expertise for music in the parish
- Communicate via email/phone to organise music and musical events
- Help to develop 'outreach' music activities
- Work across the Benefice as appropriate

Section 3 – Key Skills and Requirements

- To have strong interpersonal and communication skills to work well with a range of groups, individuals and contexts
- Ability to work collaboratively and effectively with a wider team
- To help create a vision for the development of music in the church and parish
- High standards in terms of both musicianship and personal conduct
- An appreciation of the musical ability and potential of others and to nurture their contribution
- A good knowledge of Anglican worship, the church year and liturgy
- An understanding of the role and potential of music in worship
- An experienced organist and choir leader
- To share the church's commitment to safeguarding and inclusion and to undertake all associated training

Section 4 – Context, terms and conditions

- Based at St George's Church, Andover Road, Wash Common RG14 6NU
- Reports to the Vicar
- The church is affiliated to the RSCM
- Remuneration within the region of £5k to £6k per annum and payment for occasional offices
- The post is subject to a twelve month probationary period and an annual appraisal
- Monthly meetings with the Vicar and participation on the Worship and Liturgy Working Group
- Role subject to enhanced DBS clearance in accordance with our policy
- Organist could use the organ to give private lessons