

# Head of Music

Full time – Five days per week including Sundays

This is an exciting role for a mature Christian to develop musical worship across a diverse church. It would suit a versatile musician with strong technical skills. S/he must have excellent team skills, emotional intelligence, and a broad and passionate vision for the power of musical worship to ignite faith in Jesus.

## Our Team

You would be joining about fifteen of us, in an enthusiastic and Christ-honouring culture. We work hard, care for each other, have fun, and try to be straightforwardly loving and honest. You'll have been recruited because of your gifts and character, so you won't be micromanaged, although you'll be clear on what's expected of you. You'll be encouraged to rest well and take all your time off. As a team we rely on each other to do our various ministries, and we have high standards. We dream up new ideas all the time, and if you're coming on board, we can't wait to hear yours.

The staff team at St James exists to equip our members to fulfil the church's Values and Vision, of bringing God glory by Planting in Partnership.

And you'd be living in a vibrant and fun part of north London, with high values for creativity, and easy access to the centre.

## Job Description

This description assumes the post holder is a mature evangelical Christian, and is subject to a Genuine Occupational Requirement to that effect. See the Church of England Evangelical Council's Basis of Faith and additional declarations: [www.ceec.info/basis-of-faith.html](http://www.ceec.info/basis-of-faith.html)

At St James, we have morning and evening services. The morning has a mixture of contemporary, middle of the road and more traditional music, including use of the recently restored organ. The Gathering, our evening service, has a wholly contemporary feel.

## Main objective

To lead and encourage the congregations and our other groups to worship God and encourage each other by the use of music, played and sung to a professional standard.

## Essential Criteria

- Passion for God and his gospel
- Solid understanding of the role of music in corporate worship
- Experience of leading sung worship in both solo and band settings
- Ability to sing and play lead instrument (either guitar or piano/keyboard) to a high standard

- Familiarity with different musical styles in sung worship, including contemporary, middle of the road, traditional, and popular hymns
- Ability to arrange songs for different instruments in the band setting
- Strong team worker working with volunteers and staff members
- Good administrative and organisation skills

### **Desirable Criteria**

- Experience of leading in a larger church, or larger settings e.g. festivals, conferences
- Ability to play another instrument in contemporary band setting
- Reading sheet music and scoring parts
- Experience with innovative technologies in musical worship e.g. the use of patches and stems through Mainstage, Ableton Live or similar
- Working in or with choirs
- Composer of new songs in worship
- Experience of training and pastoring teams

### **The post holder will be expected to**

- Set the vision for our sung worship on Sundays and any other all-church midweek meetings, paying particular attention to the words to be sung
- Lead the worship regularly at services and events, and ensure that there is always a leader assigned to every service
- Oversee and collaborate with members of staff or volunteers to produce a healthy range of contemporary (e.g. Hillsong, Sovereign Grace Music, Worship Central), middle of the road (e.g. Townend & Getty, Graham Kendrick) and popular hymn music on Sunday mornings and other relevant occasions, which may include scoring parts for individual instruments e.g. cello, violin, clarinet
- Continue to develop the contemporary feel of the evening service, The Gathering
- Discover and arrange suitable new songs for us to sing, with our active encouragement in composing and/or recording new material
- Recruit, train, develop and deploy musicians and worship leaders from within the congregations. Our platform for service rotas is Planning Centre
- Host team meetings for the musicians to encourage a biblical vision for worship, and develop their musical gifts
- Participate in service planning meetings, draw up agreed service orders and communicate the outcomes to worship leader assigned to service
- Oversee the care and maintenance of musical equipment in the church and centres
- Work with the children's and youth department and other musicians to oversee provision for their groups and events, and develop the Youth Band. This includes supporting weekends away and training events
- Other duties as assigned by the line manager

### **You will have**

- An allocated budget to spend, in order to develop our ministries
- An office at the church, with secure storage for instruments
- The support of regular Heads of Ministry Meetings and other relevant pastoral meetings
- Regular time with your line manager, the Vicar
- Opportunities for further training and development

We would love to see your contribution in shaping the role as well, bringing your unique gifts to the team and the church.

The salary will be in the range £21-24k depending on experience, and accommodation will be provided with an accommodation offset. There will be a 3-month probationary period.

## **To Apply**

Please supply a CV with no time-gaps, and a side of A4 explaining what you could bring to the role. We'd love you to support your application by showing us what you've been doing: recordings, links, YouTube channels etc.

To discuss the role further, including any technical questions, contact [david.cornes@st-james.org.uk](mailto:david.cornes@st-james.org.uk)  
To apply, contact [gabrielle.moris@st-james.org.uk](mailto:gabrielle.moris@st-james.org.uk)

**Closing date for applications:** 13 January 2022

Shortlisted candidates will be invited for an interview focussing on the essential and desirable criteria, and there will be a live audition. Suitable candidates will then be invited to return for an informal 'jam session' with members of the worship team. Further details regarding the interview and audition will be given in due course.

You will be asked for two referees, who would be contacted after interview.

The post is subject to an enhanced DBS check. We are committed to safeguarding and promoting welfare of children, young people, and vulnerable adults, and you would be expected to share this commitment.