****

**Lay Worship Leader**

**Name……………………………………………**

**Benefice…………………………………………………….**

The Church of England is committed to promoting a safe environment and culture for children, young people and vulnerable adults. Anyone appointed to this role will be expected to work within the relevant safeguarding policies and procedures, and to attend all required safeguarding training.

*A Lay Worship Leader (LWL) is appointed by their local church and so we would expect that this sample role description is adapted to fit the local context.*

*Amendments should be agreed between the incumbent/supervisor and LWL.*

**Role Description**

**Main purpose of the role**

To work with the incumbent and ministry team in leading the praise of God in your local community in the style appropriate to the particular church for which you are commissioned.

**What you commit to as a commissioned minister**

To love and serve your neighbours as yourself

To work for peace and reconciliation in your community

To be a sign of the ministry to which Christ calls us all

To express God’s love through caring for others and in serving them proclaiming by word and action the Good News of God in Christ.

To be faithful in your own prayers and regular worship, setting an example in your own community.

**What the role involves** *[adapt for your context]*

You may be asked to:

* Lead all or part of a set liturgy for the Service of the Word, Morning or Evening Prayer
* Assist with the leading of worship in a service of Holy Communion alongside a priest.
* Lead worship in other venues such as schools or care homes.
* Be part of a team leading all-age worship, breakfast church or another form of fresh expression
* Attend planning meetings for services and/or selection of music.
* Arrive early for any service in which you have a worship-leading role to pray and prepare
* Be aware of and comply with all relevant safeguarding requirements
* Know how to respond to and report any safeguarding concerns or allegations
* Regularly attend worship that you are not leading for your own spiritual development.
* Attend meetings for your support, guidance or supervision

**When and where you will be doing it** *[adapt for your context and time committed]*

Specify the churches, services and frequency of your responsibility.

**Additional occasional responsibilities** *[adapt for your context]*

* Additional seasonal services

**To whom you will be responsible** *[adapt for your context]*

 The Vicar/Rector/Other Ministry Team member

**Safeguarding training requirements**

The following safeguarding pathways will need to be completed and kept up to date:

* Basic Awareness
* Foundation
* Awareness of Domestic Abuse.

**Disclosure and Barring Service check**

An enhanced check for working with children is required (and for vulnerable adults if worship regularly takes place in settings such as care homes).

**Support you will be given**

* Training - Access to the Diocesan CMD programme includes sessions helpful to LWLs. Some local training may also be organised.
* Supervision sessions – How often will you meet with your supervising minister?

**Your role does not include:**

* Preaching (if you are interested in developing a preaching ministry it is suggested that you consider Licensed Lay Ministry)
* Leading a service of Communion by Extension (a service in church where a priest is not officiating but communion is shared using elements consecrated previously)

**Person Specification**

This role requires someone who:

* Has good communication skills
* Works well as part of a team
* Builds good relationships with tact and sensitivity
* Is approachable, empathetic and punctual
* Is willing to develop skills and to engage with training.
* Enjoys attending church services
* Treats everyone with respect and dignity

Signed (LWL) ………………………………………….………..

Signed (Incumbent) ………………………………………..

Date………………………………………………………………..

**Please review this role description (at least) every three years should you wish to be recommissioned.**