



DIOCESE OF WINCHESTER **“WALKING THE WESSEX WAY”**

Role Description for Rector of the Whitewater Benefice.

Details of Post

Role Title:	Incumbent (Common Tenure Interim Post)
Name of benefice:	Whitewater
Deanery:	Odiham
Archdeaconry:	Winchester

Role Context – An Introduction from Bishop Philip

Thank you for your interest in coming to minister here in this Diocese.

We serve a whole range of diverse communities, from the historic city of Winchester with our glorious Cathedral, to the great port city of Southampton, the burgeoning boroughs of Basingstoke, Bournemouth and Christchurch, thriving market towns such as Andover, Alton, Alresford and Romsey, and innumerable picture-perfect Hampshire villages. In all that there is much wealth – but there is also significant deprivation too, especially in our large urban conurbations where our churches are supporting some of the diocese’s poorest communities.

In every context, we are committed to the making the love and life of Jesus Christ known, through our churches, schools and chaplaincies, in a way that makes a tangible difference to those communities and their people.

In many ways the Diocese of Winchester is in transition, as is the world around us. In parish ministry we seek people who are aware of the challenges that we face, but who are motivated above all by faith, hope and love in addressing them. We welcome those who are committed to help God’s church to be the very best it can be, in the power of the Spirit, releasing all God’s people into the mission and ministry to which they are called. And we recognise too our need to develop in diversity.

We are excited by the opportunities before us and warmly invite applications from those who want to join us in addressing them.

With the assurance of my prayers as you seek God’s best next step for you.



General

- i. To exercise the cure of souls shared with the bishop in this parish in collaboration with your colleagues.
 - ii. To have regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy, and other relevant legislation.
 - iii. To work to advance the Kingdom of God through servant leadership, collaboration and example, and with regard to the current diocesan mission vision and values.
- a) **Serving** - Our diocese has played a major role in shaping this nation, and the life of the diocese is still marked by loving service, in innumerable ways, reaching out in love to those on the margins, serving the wider community, the nation and the wider world.
- b) **Learning** - Our diocese has been a major engine of Christian learning and education, from the time of King Alfred onwards, and remains a centre of education, learning and discipleship, through its universities and colleges, through its schools and churches.
- c) **Growing** - Our diocese has been a huge catalyst for church growth and mission. Today, we are still working for the revitalisation and renewal of our churches, equipping and enabling them for the challenges of this generation and beyond, nationally and internationally.
- d) **Loving** - Our diocese has emanated love that has changed our communities and the wider world. Today, as people encounter our churches, schools and chaplaincies, they find themselves brought face to face with the love of God in Christ, and find their lives changed as a consequence.

Specific

This post is a 3 year Common Tenure Interim Post as Incumbent of Whitewater Benefice. The specific role includes the desire for someone who:

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Spirituality & Discipleship

- Follows a disciplined personal spiritual life of daily prayer and Bible study and shares the fruits of his/her own discipleship with others.
- Has a spiritual maturity and proven gifts for discipling others.



Leadership and collaboration

- As an experienced leader and manager, will be able to set a vision for a new culture and develop it.
- Will lead with strength and compassion, being directive where necessary and communicate direction with openness and consistency.
- Will support and develop the necessary gifts of those already in church leadership and governance positions.
- Will establish a healthy state of governance and leadership relationships across the benefice.
- Will develop, with the PCCs, a clear vision for the future of the benefice.
- Will be supportive of and involved with the Diocese and the Deanery, including Chapter and Synod, to ensure that our church family is actively and enthusiastically represented; and the interests of the wider church are supported.

Worship and preaching

- Will lead the Church community in worship and prayer through an active programme of services, Bible reading & prayer groups and other channels that are deemed appropriate.
- Supports and encourages the ministry of lay people and their leadership and involvement in worship.
- Is prepared and able to appropriately challenge and encourage others through their preaching and teaching.

Evangelism and engagement with social justice

- Is confident and persuasive in sharing their faith with others and can enable others to gain confidence to do the same.
- Reflects theologically and looks to see where God is working.

Pastoral care

- Is approachable and sensitive to the varied pastoral needs of the church family.
- Keeps healthy boundaries and good self-care.
- Has experience of and will use others' expertise in the work of reconciliation, healing and restorative justice.



Stewardship, Safeguarding and wider Church life

- Will exhibit and proactively encourage generosity in the discipleship of church members, in the giving of their time, talents and money.
- Gives priority to safeguarding matters and establishes a strong safeguarding culture across the benefice.

Key Contacts

Church

The Revd Helen Sherlock (Associate Priest) & LLMs of the benefice
The Church Wardens and PCCs
The Deanery Chapter and Synod of Odiham Deanery
The Diocesan Staff at Old Alresford Place

Community

Head teachers at local schools: Whitewater Church of England Primary School (Voluntary Controlled) & Hook Junior and Infant Schools.
Local councillors/officials.

Supportive

Lay Chair: Mr Richard Elphick
Area Dean: vacant
Assistant Area Dean: The Revd Angie Smith
The Archdeacon: The Venerable Richard Brand
The Suffragan Bishop: The Rt Revd Kelly Betteridge, Bishop of Basingstoke