



Woven St Aidan's Basford

Mission Associate (church leader)



Vision

Woven:

A church of churches – Contending for Revival

St Aidan's:

'Building Community, Offering Compassion, Nurturing Creativity, Caring for Creation and Sharing Christ

Woven is a church of churches here in Nottingham. We are made up of eight amazing local churches. Each local church has its own identity and community feel but we are woven together by our vision, values, leadership, shared resources and structure.

CONTEXT

This is your chance to be part of the adventure! Join a dynamic team working across Woven Church of Churches and lead Woven St Aidan's and its excellent lay leadership team. The role will develop existing outreaches and pioneer new missional initiatives in Basford, Nottingham as well as serve as a key leader in Woven playing a part in developing the resources and ministries which help all the churches grow.



The recent story of Woven St Aidan's

Woven St Aidan's had been a church which had been declining and ageing as a congregation for a number of years. The PCC took the brave decision to invite a curate from the wider Woven church, of which we are a part, to come and lead the church in a process of change and revitalisation. This has led to lots of new initiatives being added to the church reaching out to our local community. Most of these new ideas have bubbled up from within the congregation's lay leaders. A new service pattern has emerged with a new traditional communion service added on a Monday morning, the Sunday morning service being transformed to be accessible to all ages including the starting of a Wild Church. We are looking for a Mission Associate who will work under the incumbency of the leader of Woven to operate as the church leader of St Aidan's and both develop the exciting work which has already begun as well as to continue to explore new opportunities to reach and serve the amazing parish of Basford.



The story of Woven



The Woven story began in 2018 when Rev'd Rich Atkinson moved to Nottingham and we began a journey of drawing eight parishes to work collaboratively as one church to seek nothing short of Revival in the North West of Nottingham. It's been an amazing adventure as we've seen significant growth across the churches in Woven and several churches which were once threatened with permanent closure are now once again beacons of light for their communities. At Woven we REALLY believe in the local church and so in our working together as one church (Woven) we also want all of our eight local churches to have their own sense of vision, missional endeavour and identity. Each

member of clergy and staff in Woven plays a key role in contributing to our vision. Our mission is bigger than any individual task but together our work contributes to the bigger picture. As a Christian organisation our faith is an integral part of our working culture. We gather every Monday morning for clergy and staff worship, prayer and input. This role will also be on the leadership team of Woven which meets weekly for a standing meeting and monthly for deep dives around Woven wide initiatives. We also see this role playing a part on the delivery team of Inside-Out Discipleship – our resources which serve the whole of Woven as we seek to grow as disciples and make disciples in our everyday life.

We have a fantastic clergy and staff team which the successful applicant will be part of at Woven. You can find out more here: <https://wearewoven.church/staff>

THE PARISH & CHURCH OF ST AIDAN'S



Current Service patterns:

-Sunday 10am – Family service with Wild Church (*attendance of around 40*)

Eucharistic on 2nd & 4th Sunday

-Sunday 7:30pm – Evening Contemplation service (*attendance of around 10*)

-Monday 11:30am – Traditional Eucharist service (*attendance of around 15-20*)

Parish

-Our parish has a population of 10400

-Our parish is very diverse with a large mix of all ages with many different cultural, ethnic and religious backgrounds living alongside the historical white working class community.

Schools (not all of these are in our parish but in the Woven parishes):

- Southwark Primary
- Heathfield Primary & Nursery, Scotland Road, & Kersall Drive Campuses
- Ellis Guildford Secondary
- Bluecoat Aspley Academy

Current midweek activities



Woven St Aidan's has loads of activities and outreaches serving our local community. Here's a list of what is currently happening:

- Community Café Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 8:45am till 2pm
- Morning and Evening Bible study on a Tuesday 10-11am & 7:30-9:30pm
- Tuesday Community Café hosts Bestwood Partnership Advice Service for financial and job support 10am-noon.
- We have with our Girl Guides groups and host Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers throughout the week.

- Knit and Natter – Thursday during community café.
- We are part of Woven kids football outreach.
- Weekly Prayer Meeting Friday at 1:00pm
- Little Lights toddler and parents carers outreach Friday 10-11:30am
- Gardening and cleaning happen every other week on Saturdays.
- We currently hold an A Rocha Silver Eco Award and are applying for Gold Eco Award

Opportunities (See development figures in the Appendix)

- One of the big opportunities the PCC has identified for the next season of the church is to increase our outreach to youth. There is a high number in the area and very little provision for this age category. We have a number of young people in the church at present but can see this is something



which could be significantly developed.

- We aim to continue to grow and develop what has already been started.

Finances

- St Aidan's is breaking even and is in the process of gradually rebuilding our reserves towards the three months we aim to hold as standard. This is a much-improved situation from where we were with our finances. We need to continue to grow our giving base as the church grows.
- We pay our Parish Share and a small Woven contribution in full. However, we are aware that both are currently set at a very low level and will increase. The St Aidan's 10-year parish share trajectory will be reviewed once the appointment to this post has been made.
- We have 12 regular standing order givers and 12 giving by the envelope scheme.

Building

- We have a wonderful church building. However, we have an issue with our roof for which we have nearly raised all of the money to repair but are yet to get the works undertaken.
- We need to change our chairs. We have had some donated but have a current faculty application in progress to see if we can use these.

Care for our new church leader

- We are passionate about looking after the wellbeing of our new church leader. We will achieve this through:
 - The support and line management by the incumbent of Woven who will see the Mission Associate for a monthly catch up as well as seeing them informally at staff events and meetings to check in on their wellbeing.
 - The PCC will ensure they encourage good work life balance for the new church leader. We encourage a clear day off a week with an additional quiet day. Most of the clergy in Woven take Friday off with Saturday as a quieter/ lighter day. However, it will be up to the Mission Associate to work out a pattern that suits them.
 - We will support and actively encourage the taking of retreats or reading weeks / extra study days. We want our clergy to be growing in their own walk with God and taking the time they need to breathe and listen to God.
 - We as Woven and the lay leadership team at Woven want our clergy to express their gifts and we will encourage them in this not expecting them to be brilliant at everything. We recognise ministry is a team effort.
 - We will pay work expenses as agreed in the budget setting process.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

OBJECTIVES

- In partnership with the Woven St Aidan's lay leadership team and the leader of Woven create a sense of the next stage of the vision for Woven St Aidan's in alignment with the Woven and the Diocesan vision.
- To work with the congregation at Woven St Aidan's to continue the trajectory of growth and solidify the patterns of outreach, discipleship and worship.



- To invest in the local lay leaders at Woven St Aidan's to see them flourishing and further leaders raised up.
- To work as part of the Woven team, assisting across Woven church on shared network events and initiatives. It is envisaged that this role (skillset depending) will take a key role in the development of the Inside-Out Discipleship resources.
- To be a part of the Woven leadership team, working together to plan teaching, Woven in Prayer, Woven Together and other joint initiatives.
- To play a part in creating and supporting the bigger picture strategy of Woven alongside the other key leaders in Woven leadership team.
- In partnership with the local church leadership team, lead the St Aidan's church to seek to develop and continue to grow in line with the vision.
- To work with support from the Woven kids and youth staff to develop key local volunteer leaders, or potentially staff in the future to continue to encourage the development of the kids and youth ministries at St Aidan's.
- To invest in and continue to develop Sunday worship and midweek congregations.
- To Invest in and continue to develop the midweek mission and community activities.
- To continue to engage the local community through the activity of the church.
- To keep established connections with the community and seek new ones.
- To lead St Aidan's congregation in, and enable others to, have a go at new things without feeling the pressure of everything having to work.
- To pastor and enable others to pastor the congregation of Woven St Aidan's and people in the community.
- To work with the lay leadership team at Woven St Aidan's to explore and continue to develop discipleship pathways drawing on key Woven tools like Inside Out Discipleship.
- To lead and disciple others to a Christian faith, nurturing them and enabling them to be those who in turn go and make disciples.
- To explore with the leader of Woven ways in which St Aidan's can play a significant part as Woven continues to develop, seeking to help all the Woven churches flourish.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- Line managed by and working closely with the Vicar and team leader of Woven.
- The Mission Associate will work as part of the Woven leadership team (church leaders and woven wide ministry leads). This team works in collaboration to support and draw resources from each other and to help resource and encourage other churches in Woven without a church leader or paid staffing.
- Be part of the Woven team drawing on and sharing resources, notably support from the operations team, Woven kids team and Woven youth team.
- Engage well with the Operations structures set by Woven.
- Relate well to the Deanery and Diocese

Personal Specification

SPIRITUALITY

- An intimate personal relationship with God.
- A life of deep prayerfulness.
- Seeking to live a life that is naturally supernatural, empowered by the Holy Spirit and comfortable in leading others in gifts of the Spirit.
- A passion for and commitment to study the scriptures and sound Christian doctrine.

PASSIONS

- A passion for making disciples and enabling people to make disciples of others.
- A desire to work in a mixed community.
- A community builder who wants to work with lay leaders to see people released into their callings.
- A passion for church growth and development in urban areas of deprivation.
- A passion for serving those at the margins of society and those in crisis and for tackling injustice and poverty.
- A vision for seeking the welfare of the wider community beyond the church walls.
- Evangelism - both personally and enabling others to reach out.
- A gatherer of people who value hospitality and a desire to see church members discipled well, with their gifts being released.
- A passion for Spirit led worship (of various styles including traditional) and to find creative ways of developing worship in the church.
- A passion for developing a Parish church and enabling the mission of that local church to its Parish.

SKILLS

- A visionary leader and strategic shaper who is prepared to build upon what has already been developed but will keep us moving forward and growing into the opportunities God gives us.
- An investor in people, who can help people realise their potential.
- At home in informal and interactive team and ministry settings.
- Strongly relational with a passion for healthy and deep relationships.
- Ability to take forward and inspire others towards a shared vision.
- Ability to work in social action projects but keep them focused on making disciples of Christ.
- Ability to make contact with people outside of church.
- Ability to preach in an accessible and Biblical manner.
- Ability to raise up and invest in leaders.
- Ability to discern how to best equip, nurture, encourage and empower leaders.
- Ability to communicate clearly and creatively through preaching and teaching, in small groups and individually.

MINDSETS

- Likes working with others, and is not a 'Lone Ranger'
- Listens well and is prepared to love the person in front of them
- Compassionate, open minded, flexible and community minded.
- A people person with a sense of humour.

EXPERIENCE AND COMPETENCIES

- Working with and discipling people.
- Working with community transformation initiatives, bringing change and improvement to people's lives.
- Urban mission experience in a socially and economically deprived area.

Our wider Deanery & Diocese

Called to serve in Nottingham?

It is an exciting time to be joining in God's mission in Nottingham. Nottingham North Deanery, despite its name, actually takes in parishes from the south-west (Stapleford and Wollaton), and also parishes up the M1 corridor to the west of Junction 26 as far as Kimberley, as well as the areas of Nottingham to the north and west, before curving around to Sherwood, heading out of the city to the north-east. The Deanery is highly populated and full of the challenges of bringing the gospel to generations who have mostly had little to do with church. There are currently a number of vacancies in the Deanery, and our desire is to appoint leaders into the Deanery who have a deep compassion for ordinary people coupled with a joy and hope that, under God, he will open the door to new possibilities of growth for all the churches.

Mission Opportunity

The churches in Nottingham North serve many of the poorer areas of the City of Nottingham, with several large outer estates on the western and northern side of the city. Over 50% of churches are in the bottom 15% of the CUF deprivation figures; and 30% in the bottom 4%. It is an area of significant opportunity for mission and growth, with some of the lowest attendances of any Deanery in the country. There is a growing sense of hope, prayer and expectation springing up. We know God is 'doing a new thing' across the area and we would love a new Mission Associate to share this sense of vision and hope for what God will do.

Growth plans for the deanery & diocese

- Regular monthly prayer times calling on God to breathe his life into our churches and communities
- Larger churches to become resource churches for others
- Curates trained, and then to plant or graft new congregations in smaller, struggling churches, bringing a team with them from their sending church.
- A range of ministry from ordained to lay evangelists working as a team across parishes
- Younger leaders trained to enable the church to grow younger.





Mission Associate Post for St Aidan's Basford (Time-limited)

This post is an interim Mission Associate post for three years offered under section 29 (1) (j) and (7D) of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of service) Regulations 2009 as amended. Before the end of the first three years there would be a review involving the postholder, PCC and diocese to assess progress against the priorities outlined in the profile and accompanying documentation that includes the missional priorities for St Aidan's. This review could lead to a further extension of up to three years.

Please note:

Housing

The diocese is seeking to buy a suitable parsonage house, which is why there are no details of where the successful applicant would live.

Appendix

St Aidan's development figures

Measure	Actual baseline					
	July 2026	Aug-27	Aug-28	Aug-29	Aug-30	Aug-31
AWA Adults	49	50	55	62	70	80
AWA Children (0-10)	10	13	15	20	23	25
AWA Youth (11-17)	2	3	4	6	8	10
TOTAL AWA	61	66	74	88	101	115
Overall number of leaders	9	12	14	16	19	24
New leaders	1	3	5	7	10	15
Parish share (anticipated trajectory)	5505	6016	7923	8405	8657	8917
Baptisms 0-10	1	3	5	7	9	11
Baptisms 11-17	0	0	1	1	2	2
Baptisms adults	3	5	7	9	11	13

September 2026