



Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Suffolk

Date: November 2021

To be reviewed 6 months after commencement of the appointment, and at each Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

<b>1 Details of post</b>	
Role title / Benefice	Team Vicar of Blyth Valley Team Ministry and Priest in Charge of Heveningham with Ubbeston, Huntingfield and Cookley
Deanery	Waveney & Blyth
Archdeaconry	Suffolk
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service</i>	Archdeacon of Suffolk

<b>2 Role purpose</b>
<b>General</b>
To share with the Bishop both in the cure of souls and in responsibility, under God, for growing the Kingdom in this benefice.
To ensure that the church communities in the benefices flourish and engage positively with 'Growing in God' and the Diocesan Vision and Strategy.
To work together as the Team Vicar and Priest in Charge to these benefices, having 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.
To collaborate within the deanery both in current mission and ministry and, through the deanery plan, in such reshaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require. To attend Deanery Chapter and Deanery Synod and to play a full part in the wider life of the deanery.
To work with the ordained and lay colleagues as set out in their individual role descriptions and work agreements, and to ensure that, where relevant, they have working agreements which are reviewed. This involves discerning and developing the gifts and ministries of all members of the congregation.
To work with Team Council and PCCs towards the development of the local churches as described in the benefice profile, and to review those needs with them. To recognise and value the individuality of each community.

To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching, and pastoral care is provided.
To work together, as appropriate, with other Christian denominations which have a presence in the parishes and the wider deanery.
<b>Schools</b>
To work closely with the local schools. The diocese is committed to work with both community and church schools and this should be seen as a key part of the priest's role.
<b>Specific tasks and responsibilities</b>
To lead the 'church in community' working group across the benefice, with a particular concern for the young and old, those dealing with death and bereavement and those facing poverty
To have a particular responsibility under the team rector for St Peter's cluster of parishes (Holton, Wenhaston, Thorington, Bramfield, Blyford)
Across the benefice to work with the wider ministry team to enable the people to 'grow in God', nurturing faith, fostering vocations to lay and ordained ministries and the gifts of all
Share the Christian faith with people of all ages and work with parishes to widen the age profile of congregations through building on some of the initiatives already implemented.
Teach and encourage an understanding of Christian stewardship across the benefices.
Strengthen and encourage links with young people, families, the middle aged and newly retired and help to expand outreach, pastoral care and visiting capabilities for those in need such as the elderly, lonely and isolated.
Be willing to contribute to community life in all the villages of the benefices.

<b>3 Key contacts</b>
<b>Generic</b> Team Rector The PCCs The Deanery Chapter and Synod The Church Wardens The Rural Dean and Lay Chair Team Council
<b>Specific</b> Ordained and lay colleagues (those holding the Bishop's licence, office holders and administrative staff)
<b>Aspirational</b> Civic Leaders Voluntary Sector Leaders

Public Sector Service Leaders (NHS/Social Care)	
<b>Supportive</b> The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post. The Rural Dean and Lay Chair Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry Archdeacon for Rural Mission	
<b>Patrons</b> Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Church Patronage Trust Diocesan Board of Patronage Lord Chancellor Capt Revd Jonathan Peel CBE (Deceased)	
<b>Role context and any other relevant information</b>	
The diocesan ministry deployment principles affirm an intention to maintain stipendiary clergy numbers if possible, subject to the availability of financial resources, and to develop an understanding of local episcopal oversight ministry and local ministers in parishes ministering in teams or clusters. A key aim of this is to reduce clergy isolation and increase mutual support.	
An understanding of the Parish Share process and how it is applied across the benefices and deanery and its importance for the sustainability of ministry across the diocese is fundamental.	
The Bishops expect and encourage clergy to take their rest days, holidays and regular retreats or similar. Clergy are strongly encouraged to have a spiritual director or equivalent.	

<b>4 Benefice Summary</b>	
<b>Parishes</b>	<p>Blyford: All Saints  Bramfield: St Andrew  Chediston: St Mary  Halesworth: St Mary  Holton: St Peter  Linstead Parva: St Margaret of Antioch  Spexhall: St Peter  Thorington: St Peter  Walpole: St Mary the Virgin  Wenhaston: St Peter  Wissett: St Andrew</p> <p>Heveningham and Ubbeston: St Margaret</p>

	Huntingfield: St Mary the Virgin Cookley: St Michael & All Angels
<b>Churches</b>	Blyford: All Saints – Grade I Bramfield: St Andrew – Grade I Chediston: St Mary – Grade II Halesworth: St Mary – Grade II* Holton: St Peter – Grade II* Linstead Parva: St Margaret of Antioch – Grade I Spexhall: St Peter – Grade I* Thorington: St Peter – Grade I Walpole: St Mary the Virgin – Grade II* Wenhaston: St Peter – Grade I Wissett: St Andrew – Grade I  Heveningham and Ubbeston: St Margaret – Grade I Huntingfield: St Mary the Virgin – Grade I Cookley: St Michael & All Angels – Grade I
<b>PCC</b>	The Team Council and PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.
<b>Schools and Colleges</b>	Holton St Peter Community Primary School Edgar Sewter Community Primary School, Halesworth Bramfield CofE Primary School Bramfield House Residential SEN School Wenhaston Community Primary School Bungay High School (not in Benefice but catchment school for majority of secondary age pupils) Ilketshall St Lawrence Primary School (jointly with Saints Benefice) The Attic PRU, Walpole
<b>Churchwardens</b>	Blyford: All Saints - 1 Bramfield: St Andrew - 2 Chediston: St Mary - 1 Halesworth: St Mary - 1 Holton: St Peter - 2 Linstead Parva: St Margaret of Antioch - 1 Spexhall: St Peter - 1 Thorington: St Peter - 2 Walpole: St Mary the Virgin - 0 Wenhaston: St Peter - 1 Wissett: St Andrew – 2  Heveningham and Ubbeston: St Margaret – 2 Huntingfield: St Mary the Virgin – 1 Cookley: St Michael and All Angels - 1

<b>Ministers</b>	1 x Team Rector 2 x Assistant Curates 8 x Lay Elders
<b>Buildings</b>	Halesworth Church Hall Old Church School Room – Chediston (owned by the church but managed and maintained by the community) Wenhaston Church Room (being sold)
<b>Churchyards</b> (Open or closed)	Blyford: All Saints - Open Bramfield: St Andrew - Open Chediston: St Mary - Open Halesworth: St Mary - Closed Holton: St Peter - Open Linstead Parva: St Margaret of Antioch – Open Spexhall: St Peter - Open Thorington: St Peter - Open Walpole: St Mary the Virgin - Closed Wenhaston: St Peter - Closed Wissett: St Andrew - Open  Heveningham and Ubbeston: St Margaret – Churchyard open but Church is closed Huntingfield: St Mary the Virgin - Open Cookley: St Michael & All Angels - Open
<b>Population</b>	Blyford: 193 Bramfield: 490 Chediston: 160 Halesworth: 4,726 Holton: 1,100 Linstead Parva: 120 Spexhall: 190 Thorington: 50 Walpole: 238 Wenhaston: 818 Wissett: 220  Heveningham and Ubbeston: 180 Huntingfield: 160 Cookley: 100
<b>Average Sunday Attendance</b>	Blyford: All Saints : 4 Bramfield: St Andrew : 6 (Easter 28, Christmas 95)

	<p>Chediston: St Mary : 12  Halesworth: St Mary : 20  Holton: St Peter : 18  Linstead Parva: St Margaret of Antioch : 6  Spexhall: St Peter : 8  Thorington: St Peter : Festival Church ... 4 services a year  Walpole: St Mary the Virgin : 0  Wenhaston: St Peter : 20  Wissett: St Andrew : 15</p> <p>Heveningham and Ubbeston: St Margaret : 12  Huntingfield: St Mary the Virgin : 7  Cookley: St Michael &amp; All Angels : 13</p>
<b>Parish Share</b>	<p>2020: £86,978 75.02%  2019: £111,000 100%  2018: £111,000 100%</p> <p>2020 £5,000 31.93%  2019: £11,997 80.03%  2018: £12,994 86.68%</p>
<b>Expenses</b>	Reimbursed in full
<b>Resolutions</b>	The parish of Cookley has signed the Resolution of Women Priests and is under the pastoral care of the Bishop of Richborough
<b>Church Tradition</b>	Gentle Liberal Catholic
<b>Pastoral re-organisation</b>	None planned at present – informal cluster of two Benefices
<b>Presence of other Christian denominations</b>	<p>St Edmunds Roman Catholic Church – Halesworth  United Reformed Church (URC) – Halesworth  United Reformed Church (URC) – Bramfield  Wenhaston Methodist Church</p>
<b>Presence of other faith communities</b>	Halesworth Community Church