

Case Studies

1. The Toddler Group

The Church runs a weekly toddler groups for local parents and their children. It is a warm, welcoming group through which parents have formed friendships. In the last year the Church has started an afternoon service which some of these families have started to attend. In recent months a number of childminders have started coming along, driving in from other parts of the city and there is now a capacity issue. There is a small but dedicated team who run the group but they are starting to feel like they are been taken for granted. The last time the group met there were 26 children present 12 of them were looked after by just three adults.

What pastoral issues are there?

How might the team begin to address them?

2. Doris

A few years ago a wonderful lady moved into the sheltered accommodation in your parish and was delighted to find a new church family. She quickly made friends and got involved in the life and worship of the two churches in the Benefice. In recent months she has started to become less reliable, and didn't turn up at church when she was leading prayers. Last week one of the ladies from the midweek service approached you and expressed concerned about her. "I think she is starting to loose her memory" she said, "we have the same conversation twice".

What pastoral issues are there?

How might you begin to address them?

3. The Director of Music

About a year ago the PCC appointed a new Director of Music who is now unhappy with what the Vicar is asking him to do both in terms of the amount of hours and changes to a more modern style of worship. He's tried to speak to the Vicar but feels he hasn't been heard as nothing has changed. He doesn't want to speak to the Vicar again so he comes to you for advice.

What pastoral issues are there?

How might you begin to address them?