

Job Description and Person Specification for EHRS Interim Rabbi

Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue is an inclusive, progressive, vibrant and welcoming community of over 3000 members, which strongly values Jewish tradition, whilst responding to the challenges of modern day Jewish living.

We are looking for an engaging and caring Rabbi who will join our Senior Rabbi Mark Goldsmith and Rabbi Debbie Young-Somers and our Student Rabbi Lev Taylor, as well as the community, for the remainder of 5781 into the High Holy Days. Our Rabbi will be open-minded, a team worker, able to lead services, teach and bring their own special qualities to the Synagogue whilst being approachable, compassionate and inspirational to all generations. We look forward to him or her building relationships with the members and staff team of the Synagogue which enable all to see them as fully part of our community.

Dimensions of post:

This is an interim half-time post. We expect it to begin in January 2021 and finish after the High Holy Days in 2021 though the term may be extended. EHRS is currently in a process of recruiting a permanent full-time Rabbi or Cantor to be part of our team and don't expect them to be able to begin working with us until after this time.

Pay and conditions will be subject to negotiation. We are aware that we are looking for a Rabbi with substantial experience for this interim role and thus will reward the post holder at the right level of the Reform Judaism Rabbinic Scale to recognise the value of that experience.

Job Description:

All aspects of this job description are carried out with the co-operation of your fellow members of the EHRS Rabbinic Team

Services

- * To lead Synagogue services in conjunction with wardens, Music Director, cantorial soloists and lay readers. Our Rabbi will have every opportunity to be creative in the areas of services, celebrations and life cycle events
- * To deliver inspiring, thought-provoking sermons that connect with the members
- * To work with and develop participating lay readers on a regular basis
- * In liaison with the Services Committee, provide guidance to those who lead services and to help develop creative parallel services providing a range of exciting options for our congregants, liturgically and musically

Funerals

- * To officiate at funerals, cremations and tombstone consecrations
- * To respond positively to requests for Shiva services liaising with lay readers to help when necessary

Pastoral

- * To liaise with our community care staff and volunteer team in providing support for members at times of stress and illness, and assist with bereavement support
- * To support the dying and bereaved, give family support and guidance, and visit the elderly and the sick

Education & Youth

- * To liaise with the Heads of Youth & Education to develop innovative study programmes and activities.
- * To be an inspirational teacher for our young people
- * To initiate programmes and participate in adult education for Jews and those who are choosing Judaism
- * To aid in the development of programmes and relationships which respond to today's children's and families' lives

Synagogue Administration

- * To work closely with the Synagogue administration to ensure excellent communication channels and foster good working relationships
- * To agree key priorities and objectives with the Chair and Senior Rabbi
- * To clearly communicate times of availability, ensuring significant time and availability on the Synagogue campus
- * To meet with Rabbinic and professional colleagues regularly to discuss forthcoming joint and individual plans of work

Management Structure

- * The Rabbi reports to and is supervised by the Senior Rabbi
- * The Rabbi is responsible for working collaboratively with their fellow Rabbis, lay Chazzanim and the lay leadership in all aspects of their work
- * To work in partnership with the Rabbinic team to ensure delivery of the Synagogue's vision and mission statements
- * To work collaboratively with the Rabbinic team providing each other with support

Person Specification

Qualifications

- * Qualified to be a member of the Assembly of Reform Rabbis and Cantors UK
- * Experience in the community rabbinate

Skills & Abilities

We are looking for someone who can demonstrate the following:

- * Willingness and eagerness to work with our Senior Rabbi, Rabbi and Student Rabbi
- * Ability to deliver inspiring and thought-provoking sermons
- * Ability to teach and encourage lay leaders and congregants to take part in services
- * Ability to make others feel at ease
- * Ability to proactively and confidently mix and converse with a wide variety of people (including reaching out to the non-engaged and unaffiliated)
- * Ability to manage own time and meet pre-agreed objectives including to work remotely from home should conditions require it.
- * A willingness to be creative and innovative and to work on new projects
- * A willingness to work with the wider community and engage with Reform Judaism
- * Competent PC and social media user including using communications technology
- * An ability to deal with difficult situations tactfully and diplomatically