



Vacancy Available for Organist and Choir Leader.

Applications are invited for the position of Organist and Choir Leader at St Andrew's, Kimbolton on the retirement of the current post-holder.

Location:

St Andrews Church of England Church, Kimbolton, Cambridgeshire PE28 0HN.

Start from:

May 2025

Contractual Status and Payment:

Self-employed.

Basic stipend of £4,560 p/a with additional payments for Occasional Offices.

Time off:

Six Sundays p/a on full pay.

Closing Date for Applications:

13th April 2025

Assessment Process:

Panel interview with musical audition. Date likely to be 26th April 2025.

The Place

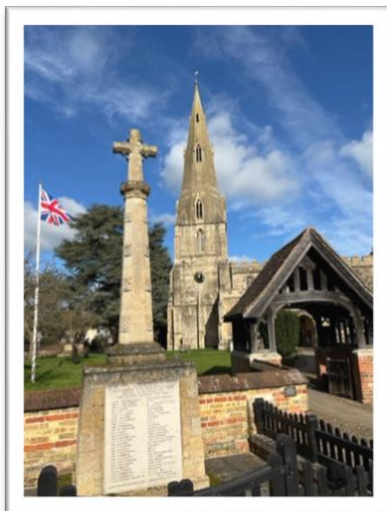
Kimbolton is a village 30 miles west of Cambridge in the historic countryside of Huntingdonshire and is a hub for much that happens in the wider area.

It boasts Kimbolton School (prep and senior school) set in the castle and grounds of the historic seat of the Duke of Manchester, and has a charming, traditional high street.

Kimbolton Primary Academy, in Newtown, also serves younger members of the community, who then move on to secondary schools in nearby towns.



Kimbolton School



St Andrew's

Kimbolton retains its feel as a market town, with the School at the east end of the High Street, and the church at the west, with small businesses, shops, a pub, Indian restaurant and cafes in-between.

Villagers are active and inter-connected and can be found at the cricket and football clubs, at Rotary, Probus or the British Legion, joining in the choir in the School, or part of the WI or history group.

The People

The church community is vibrant, eclectic, traditional, capable, getting younger and seeking to become a full family church. Regular worshippers number between 40-60 on any Sunday.

In recognition of this, we aim for a “buffet” of worship, with musical options and styles helpful to different tastes and traditions. The successful candidate will be sensitive to and flexible for those needs and tastes.

The Worship

Weekly Worship

We are a civic parish church, and as a result we seek to cater for all ages and tastes of those who worship with us and adapt to large civic events at need.

The pattern of worship is:

Week of the Month	Act of Worship
1st Sunday	Parish Communion with Sunday School (11 a.m.) <i>Choir rehearsal from 10:00</i> Evensong (3 p.m. winter, 6 p.m. summer)
2nd Sunday	Family Worship (11 a.m.)
3rd Sunday	Choral Matins (11 a.m.) <i>Choir rehearsal from 10:00</i>
4th Sunday	Family Communion (11 a.m.)
5th Sunday	Group service (11 a.m.)

Occasional Offices

We host about 12 funerals and up to 5 weddings a year. The post-holder has a right of first refusal for playing at these.

Festival Seasons

Festival worship enjoys high attendance. Our organist will be expected to lead, support and develop various civic events during festival seasons. Examples include:

- Nine lessons and carols
- Midnight Communion
- Stainer's Crucifixion
- All Souls
- Remembrance

The Instrument and the building

The organ is a two manual pipe organ originally built in 1825 by Timothy Russell and rebuilt several times since then, most recently in 2019. Full details can be found on the [national pipe organ register here](#).

It is generally regarded as the best instrument for miles around.



The Organ



The Nave and chancel of St Andrew's

Our building is large for the population, comfortably able to seat 250 in the congregation. We have also recently appointed a development architect who is helping us imagine how to improve the building to the benefit of all.

St Andrew's is a Grade 1 listed building, with many features of architectural and historical significance. In particular, the Tiffany window, the only one of its kind in a church in England, attracts visitors from all over the country.

Our Choir

The church choir was re-formed in October 2024 and has attracted a number of newcomers of all ages to the church. This renewed musical leadership at choral services has been enthusiastically received by the wider congregation. Examples of our recent repertoire include *Blessed be God the Father (Wesley)*, *Holy is the True Light (Harris)*, and *O Holy Night (arr Rutter)*.

To support rehearsal, we also have a good quality mobile electric piano.

The successful post-holder will be expected to grow, coordinate and develop our all-age choir, ensuring up to two services per month enjoy choral support.

Other Music at St Andrew's

The church is occasionally used as a venue for other musical events, including in recent years a performance by the Hanover Band, a professional saxophone and piano recitals and concerts by local choirs.

Other Musicians

Our ambition is to be a full family church, which means we want to grow opportunities for different musicians and music in our acts of worship. The organist will be expected to support, encourage and collaborate in this.

Schools

Kimbolton School

We have a deepening partnership with Kimbolton School who are exploring opportunities for students and musicians to contribute and lead worship with us on Sunday mornings on a regular basis.

As a local friend they use the church up to 15 times a year, bringing their own choir, organist and musicians.

Kimbolton Primary (KPA)

KPA use the church three times a year for student worship.

The Ministry Team



Canon Philip Howson

Revd Canon Philip Howson is the Rector overseeing a broad and eclectic mix of ministers within the two benefices of West and South Leightonstone. He is partnered by Joanne Batch, our Children and Families Minister, a new post in the group with a lead responsibility for the development of family worship. The organist will be a key partner to both post-holders.

St Andrew's is part of a wider group called "The Leightonstone Churches". This group has created a Joint Council, which oversees ministry to children and families.

For a better understanding of our work, check out our [website here](#).

Further Information

For further information about the benefice and church, check out:

<https://www.kymchurch.org.uk/wp2/>

Feel free to contact the Rector, Philip Howson on 07946 206586 for further discussion.

To try out the organ in advance, please contact Mr Roy Butler on 01480 861007

Assessment Process and Safeguarding

Although this is a self-employed position, for safer recruitment reasons we will need applicants to send us:

1. A complete confidential declaration with two referees
2. An application form with two referees

There will be a panel-based interview with musical audition.

The preferred candidate will require an Enhanced DBS and will be expected to complete appropriate safeguarding training in the first months of their tenure.

Applications to be sent to:

Revd Canon Philip Howson
The Rectory
Church Lane
Tilbrook
Cambridgeshire
PE28 0JS

revphiliphowson@gmail.com