

Our ref: DB/11/21

November 2021

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Dear Candidate

SPORTILY

We are delighted that you are looking at a post with Sportily. Sportily represents our commitment as a Diocese to the renewal of the church in its calling to share the love of God and work for the coming of the Kingdom. Through Sportily we are committed to establishing new Christian communities, local church expressions, that with wider church share the life that is to be found in Jesus Christ.

While Sportily has its own identity this is very much one that is lived within the Diocesan family and as such it is, as you would expect, an expression of the ministry of the Church of England. As part of that identity, we are fully committed to working ecumenically. Those who **lead** as part of it are drawn from a range of traditions and our approach, rooted in the Diocesan **LIFE vision**, is committed to **engaging** with the people and communities we minister to with **imagination** as we share our **faith**.

As a Diocese we are fully committed to promoting a healthy mixed ecology of church life within a landscape of varied configuration, comprising healthy parish ministry, chaplaincy, schools and fresh expressions, including our Church Army Centre of Mission and, of course, Sportily itself. Together these different expressions of our common witness point to the abundance of life that is to be found and shared in Jesus Christ and as such it is essential that each honours, supports and encourages the other.

Those who minister within Sportily either hold a licence from the bishop if they are a confirmed communicant member of the Church of England or if a member of another church are given a letter of authorisation, also from the Bishop. All who minister are united in holding a common commitment to the vision to share the gospel afresh in this generation.

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You can explore this further by looking at our 'LIFE' vision at <http://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about/vision/> and our Culture and Values for ministry at <https://www.gloucester.anglican.org/about-us/our-vision/cultures-and-values-of-ministry/>, at its heart we want to be well equipped to share 'The transforming Gospel of Jesus Christ', so that people may 'know life in all its fullness.'

'I am about to do a new thing' says God in Isaiah 43 v 19, 'I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert'. We hope you share our vision and passion to realise what God is doing through us and want to explore this further in this new role.

With every blessing

+ Rachel

+ Robert