
St Andrew's Church

St Andrew's Church Centre, Millhams Road, Kinson,
Bournemouth BH10 7LN Tel: 01202 570010
E-mail: info@standrewskinson.org
Website: www.standrewskinson.org
Registered Charity No. 1138074

29 April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to you as former members of the St Andrew's Kinson Toddler Group - Little Angels.

As you may know, prior to the effects of COVID-19 forcing many community groups to close their doors last March 2019, our Toddler Group had been a regular presence in the Kinson community. Since our Community Centre was built on the current site in the late 1980's, St Andrew's has provided a space for parents and carers to gather, meet new friends and find support, as their children played and enjoyed socialising with others.

For many of those years Linda Bird, supported by Sue Edwards, ensured that the doors were opened each week of school term. In recent times, others from our church community and the community at large offered their time and gifts to this activity. From feedback we have received over the years, we know the Toddler Group has been a significant and treasured part of many children's early years. We are incredibly thankful to all those who have served over the last 40 years, for their commitment to this ministry and the parents and carers who have been served by it.

For the past 12 months we have watched and waited for COVID-19 restrictions to be eased, only to be enhanced again. There were times when we could have opened with a limited number of visitors, and a number of restrictions, but without any safe and secure outdoor space this seemed an impossible ask for all concerned.

As we anticipate the opening up again of our buildings from June/July onwards, the church leadership of St Andrew's Kinson have decided that we need some time to reflect on how best we use our resources for the benefit of our local community. Therefore, and with that in mind, we wanted to let you know that we will not be re-commencing Little Angels for the foreseeable future.

In writing to you about this, we wanted to assure you that we remain as committed as ever to young families living in our parish of Kinson and Northbourne and indeed the surrounding areas that border us.

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We will be spending time discerning how we might do this and would like to ask you to consider the following:

1. Could you please write to us in reply and let us know how you feel we can best support our local young families moving forward. Also,
2. If you would like to stay in touch, so we can keep you updated, we will need your permission to hold your information - so please indicate your agreement for us to do so. If we don't hear from you we will destroy your details in line with Privacy laws and guidance.
3. For some of you, your young children have now all reached school age and you have no need for a Toddler Group - we would love to hear how your child/children are going as they transitioned to 'big school'.
4. Please remember that we are here to serve you. We continue to operate the Kinson and West Howe Foodbank. We also have access to a couple of grant making organisations, who partner with us as we seek to help people in crisis. Do let us know if we can help - if it falls outside of our remit we may still be able to point you in the right direction.
5. Finally, we will be keeping our Little Angels Facebook Page active and hope to use it as an information page for Parenting/Carers of young children. You will find useful articles, promotions that may be of use to you in the local areas and news about any forthcoming St Andrew's young family activities. You can access this page by going to <https://www.facebook.com/littleangelskinson/>

In closing, can I take this opportunity to thank you for your membership and support of what has been a central ministry in the life of our church and local area.

Yours sincerely



Lee Shirvill

Team Rector - St Andrew's Kinson

Mobile: 07763 558 433

On behalf of the St Andrew's Little Angels Team