

## **A Report on Children's Work**

The past year has seen some positive, small steps forward for our work with children and families and we are excited about the year ahead.

We now have a more consistent and slightly larger attendance on a Sunday morning, with some additional, regular attendees and our youngest children becoming old enough to engage with activities. There is a wide age spread though and planning things for the whole group can still be challenging for the small group actually planning the sessions.

The successful fundraising for a lay worker has given huge encouragement to us that help is on the way and we will be able to do more in the future!

We also spent considerable energy this year on organising and brightening the back room and on creating a welcoming space for children in the nave. Both of these have been extremely positive for children and parents and are perhaps contributing to our growing numbers.

Our occasional non-Sunday events have again been very successful with a large number of children attending - Epiphany party, Pancake Party, Easter Saturday.

Clare Loughridge has organised visits from Sheffield Girls' High School, Hunters Bar Infant School and Hunters Bar Junior School. This is important outreach work, the co-ordination of which we hope can be taken over by the lay worker.

We are extremely grateful to all members of the church who have spared some time to support with our children, even if just adding to our pairs of hands on the day of activity. Thank you!

Alastair Morris, April 2025