

## **Chandler's Ford Methodist Church: further information**

Chandlers Ford Methodist Church is part of the Winchester, Eastleigh and Romsey Circuit, within the Southampton District.

A Methodist church has been in C/Ford since 1900, the present buildings occupying a large site on the main road were completed in the 1990s.

The Church lies at the heart of the community it serves, where a desire to make more faithful followers of Jesus drives all that it does.

The church building, used for worship, events and concerts, is a large modern attractive space, providing flexible seating, eight screens, a sound desk, cameras, projection, organ, piano, and electric keyboard.

The main Sunday service attracts a post pandemic congregation of 90 + a further 15- 20 joining on Zoom. Monthly early Communion and evening worship, weekly mid-week services, have small, faithful followings.

Work with children and young people is developing following of the appointment of a full-time youth worker this past year. A monthly Breakfast Church is well established, attracting children and families.

The weekly toddler group Dovetots, goes from strength to strength. An after-school club to support children of school age is proving to be very popular. Girls and Boys Brigade companies both meet weekly. The B.B. band attracts musicians of all ages, is highly regarded and often contributes to worship.

A thriving Women's Fellowship meets weekly, together with a number of church house groups.

The extensive premises are very well used by church groups and external lettings. The Peter Pan play group is a church owned pre-school which meets daily in term time and uses one end of the building.

There is a well-established Springboard which for many years has used upstairs rooms to help and advise people with employment issues.

The Dovetail cafe is open 6 mornings a week staffed by volunteers, and is a popular meeting place, helping to meet the needs of the community, combating loneliness, and offering friendship and help to many.

This is seen very much as part of our Christian outreach.

A community food larder operates in response to local needs and there is also a collection point for the local basics bank. The church is registered as a warm space.

There is a strong leadership team and action groups which sustain and further the work. Currently we enjoy and value our minister ( 75% ), a part time pastoral assistant, a youth and children's worker, a part time administrator, a caretaker and a facility manager. We are seeking to add the church and community chaplain to this number.

We are an active church seeking to discover God at work in our lives .