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About Westminster Abbey Enterprises Ltd

WAEL is responsible for all retail activities at Westminster Abbey. WAEL currently employs around 25 staff, and the organisational structure is detailed below.

The main shop abuts the Great West door, at the exit to the Abbey. It sells a range of books and merchandise inspired by the life, history and architecture of the Abbey, and reflecting its location as a visitor attraction in central London. There is a further shop in the Cloisters (at the restaurant entrance/exit) selling a selective range of gifts, guides and souvenirs, and the Abbey museum (situated off the Cloisters) has a small sales area selling books and postcards. A new online shop was launched in September 2014.

The net profits from retail sales revenue are usually gift-aided to the Abbey. WAEL’s trading activities provide a valuable contribution to the income of the Abbey.
About Westminster Abbey

Westminster Abbey is a major centre for Christian worship, a leading venue for tourism and a treasured part of Britain’s heritage. The Abbey has occupied a central place in the celebration of great events for the nation and remains one of the most beautiful architectural masterpieces in Britain.

A living Church, Westminster Abbey is the House of Kings, where the coronation of Kings and Queens has taken place since 1066, and where many of the Kings and Queens of England and of the United Kingdom are buried. Principal among them is St Edward the Confessor, King of England from 1042 to 1066, whose shrine is at the heart of the Abbey Church. Beside and around them are buried or commemorated many of the great men and women from almost every century of British history: statesmen and politicians, lawyers, warriors, clerics, writers, artists, musicians. Westminster Abbey is a Royal Peculiar, and the Dean and Chapter of Westminster are directly responsible to the Sovereign.

Westminster Abbey’s Mission is

- To serve Almighty God as a ‘school of the Lord’s service’ by offering divine worship daily and publicly;
- To serve the Sovereign by daily prayer and by a ready response to requests made by or on behalf of Her Majesty;
- To serve the nation by fostering the place of true religion within national life, maintaining a close relationship with members of the House of Commons and House of Lords and with others in representative positions;
- To serve pilgrims and all other visitors and to maintain a tradition of hospitality.

The Abbey attracts in excess of one million paying visitors each year, from all around the world. A large number of people also attend services which take place seven days a week. Daily services are only part of the Abbey’s work, for there are also many ‘special’ services and events throughout the year. Westminster Abbey currently employs around 300 staff in a variety of roles and an even larger number of volunteers.

The Abbey receives no regular income from the State, the Church of England or the Royal Family, and relies on monies raised from visitors to ensure that the building can be properly maintained and remain open as an amenity for all.
Equality Statement and
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Equality Statement

Westminster Abbey Enterprises Ltd aims at all times to recruit the person who is most suited to the job. Recruitment will be solely on the basis of the applicant’s abilities and individual merit as measured against the criteria for the job. Qualifications, skills and experience will be assessed at the level that is relevant to the job.

We will ensure that our shortlisting, interviewing and selection procedures avoid discrimination in any way, including on grounds of age, disability, gender, marital status or civil partnership, race, nationality or ethnic origins, religion or belief and sexual orientation.

Please return the Equal Opportunities Monitoring form with your application. This will help us monitor our recruitment practice. The form will not be seen by the people making the selection decision.

Safeguarding

Westminster Abbey is committed to the safeguarding of children, young people and adults at risk. To prevent them from harm, we undertake appropriate checks on staff and volunteers and require them to complete relevant safeguarding training. Offers are subject to a relevant level of criminal record check, receipt of references satisfactory to Westminster Abbey, right to work in the UK, proof of professional qualifications and medical clearance, which may include a medical assessment from the Abbey doctor.

How to Apply

Please complete our application form as CVs will not be accepted.

Read the Job Description and Person Specification carefully and think about how your experience, skills and abilities help you to meet the requirements listed in the Person Specification. Use the ‘Supporting Statement’ section of the form to tell us how you meet each of the requirements.

As well as your previous work experience, tell us about other relevant experience such as community and voluntary experience, also leisure and other interests. Clear information on how you meet all the requirements of the job, with relevant examples, will help us with shortlisting, and we may not be able to shortlist you for interview if you do not provide this.

Please send your completed application to:

The Human Resources Department (WAEL)
The Chapter Office
20 Dean’s Yard
London SW1P 3PA

or email it to us: applications@westminster-abbey.org

We regret that, due to the large number of applications we receive, we are only able to contact or provide feedback if you have been shortlisted for interview. We appreciate your interest in our work at the Westminster Abbey.