

Next steps

Looking to explore a ministry?

For guidance on exploring your call, the vocations team is a good source of support.

Please contact

vocations@bathwells.anglican.org

For those looking for first steps towards ministry, the foundation course is a good resource.

If you are interested in exploring a pathway to a local ministry such as leading worship or pastoral visiting, please speak to your incumbent or, in the case of vacancy, your churchwarden or Area or Lay Dean.

You can find out more by contacting training@bathwells.anglican.org

Looking to support those exploring ministry?

If you are a member of clergy or a Reader wishing to run a course or to mentor someone who is exploring ministry and would like to use the resource materials, please contact training@bathwells.anglican.org

Get in touch

To find out more about the lay ministry pathway, visit bathandwells.org.uk/shared-local-ministry

To apply for a resource pack and for further information, please contact

E: training@bathwells.anglican.org

T: 01749 685116

For further guidance please contact the Ministry Training Team Leader

E: ronnie.crossman@bathwells.anglican.org

T: 01749 685129

Taster days

In person and online taster days where you can find out more about the pathway.

To find out the latest dates please visit bathandwells.org.uk/lay-ministry-pathway or contact training@bathwells.anglican.org

The lay ministry pathway

Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.

Colossians 2:7

For more information visit:

bathandwells.org.uk/shared-local-ministry



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Initial conversations

This is a first step. It may initially be a nudge from a minister, home group leader, a youth group leader or a friend at church and followed up with a chat with the incumbent of the parish.

Discernment

The person discerning this call, may find it helpful to chat with a member of the diocesan vocations team. Once a specific ministry is identified, the incumbent uses the ministry checklist to discuss the most appropriate approach to equipping for that ministry. The incumbent may delegate this task to another experienced minister, (Lay or ordained) who may become a local mentor.



Equipping pathways

Course pathway

A full course may be delivered locally or facilitated by the diocesan training team, in person or online, using the diocesan resource.

Sessions pathway

Some participants with relevant previous experience, may only need specific sessions from the relevant course.

Apprenticeship pathway

Working alongside an experienced person (a mentor), the participant gains practical experience. The emphasis is on the practical, with sessions from courses used alongside.



The Local Mentor

An experienced person works alongside the participant offering support through training and beyond this stage into their first steps in exercising ministry.

Discernment review and application for commendation

The mentor or incumbent assesses competence and confidence of the participant by observing ministry and talking through their development using the ministry checklist. Safer recruitment process is followed ensuring safeguarding DBS and training in place. PCC agreement is obtained. A ministry agreement is drawn up. The application is sent to the diocesan ministry training team to obtain a certificate of commendation.



Commissioning

Ministry is publicly recognised at a parish, deanery or diocesan event.



Living out your ministry

Continuing to develop and grow in ministry.

A vision for ministry

All people are created by God and called to be involved in God's mission and ministry. Through our baptism, we are called to shine as lights in the world. Shared local ministry provides a framework to explore a wide variety of ministry roles in the local church and community shared between clergy and lay ministers.

The Lay Ministry Pathway

The pathway opposite takes an individual on a journey from an initial nudge to living out and developing a ministry in their community.

Full guidance notes explaining each step are available from training@bathwells.anglican.org. The checklist indicates gifts and skills needed to exercise a particular ministry.

The requirements are supported by course materials, which may be delivered as a full course or accessed for individual sessions under the guidance of a local mentor, often the incumbent or another member of the local team.

PCC approval for ministry is required, along with the completed checklist, a DBS and the appropriate level of safeguarding training. This ensures as a church we maintain a high level of accountability and exercise our ministry in as safe a way as we can.

The individual will receive a commendation from the Bishop and will be welcomed at a local commissioning service.