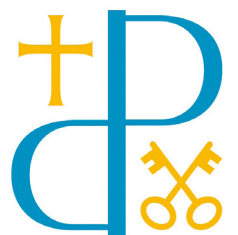




The Ministry Experience Scheme

Join the Peterborough Team



The Diocese of Peterborough

**ARE YOU
READY
FOR AN
ADVENTURE?**





A year of ministry experience

The Peterborough Diocese **Ministry Experience Scheme** is a voluntary, flexible and action-packed internship year.

You'll receive:

- A weekly allowance of £156
- A wide range of ministry experience
- Theological development
- Practical training
- 1:1 mentoring support

It runs from the start of September through to the summer, with full-time and part-time options available.

Accommodation can be provided.

Training & Development Days



At the heart of this year is an investment in you.

That's why as part of the year* you'll receive free access to:

- Monthly Development Days with our partner organisations
- A launch residential and a mid-year retreat
- A nationally accredited Children's and Youth Ministry Training course
- An optional theological development track with readings, discussion and theological reflection
- Line management and supervision
- Regular 1:1 meetings with a spiritual mentor

*Typical experience for a full-time volunteer



Practical experience

Join us in growing faith from generation to generation (Psalm 145:4).

Explore a wide range of ministries, including...

- 1. Children's, Youth and School's work**
You'll experience a bit of everything, from toddler groups to youth clubs, assemblies to residential.
- 2. Worship and preaching**
You'll get to observe, participate and lead in a variety of worship contexts, including public speaking training and opportunities to have a go.
- 3. Serving in the community**
There will be lots of opportunities to roll up your sleeves as you serve people in your local community.
- 4. Small group discipleship**
You'll be invited to join a small group as you grow in your faith, with opportunities to take a lead in discipling other people.



Gaining experience in young people and children's ministry

For anyone who is exploring a calling to children's & youth ministry, specific training and opportunities are available. Enquire on application.

We'll work with you to create a balanced programme that helps you to experience a wide range of ministries, including opportunities to explore worship and mission in a variety of church traditions.

Meet the team



Pete White, Director

Hi, I'm Pete, Director of Children and Youth for Peterborough Diocese. I long to see every church having children and young people at the centre. I love seeing young people and young adults develop in their discipleship and thrive in discovering their calling. I look forward to sharing your journey.

Chad Chadwick, Coordinator

Hello. I'm Chad, the MES Coordinator for Peterborough Diocese. I love my job because I believe that when we grow faith from generation to generation the whole church comes alive! The best bit of my job is encouraging people of all ages to enjoy God's creation and experiment with different ways of worshipping outdoors. I'm looking forward to going on an adventure with you all!



Charlotte Nobbs, Children's Mission Enabler

I am the Children's Mission Enabler for Peterborough Diocese, and love to support churches as they build relationships with children and their families. My background is in primary education, volunteering, being a mum to four children (now in their 20s) and I love going for long runs or pottering in the garden.

Louise Skinner, Team Administrator

Hi, I'm Louise, the Team Administrator for the Mission & Development and Children & Youth teams. I feel incredibly blessed to be living out my faith journey at work! I'm also treasurer for St Mary's Church (Rushden) and enjoy helping at youth events and other outreach activities. I love cycling and I have a greyhound called Cecil!





How does it work?

The Peterborough Diocese scheme is part of the national Church of England Ministry Experience Scheme. The programme runs from September until July.

We are aware that each person's circumstances are unique and we want to be as flexible as possible to adapt to your needs. For example you may wish to work some hours alongside the year to earn income and we fully support you in that.

If you choose the full-time option, you'll be with us five days per week. If you choose the part-time option, you'll be with us three or four days per week. We encourage all participants to enjoy one full 'Sabbath' day every week and take regular time-off.

Each person's schedule is different and works around the placement church's mission and ministry in the local community. Flexible working, including evenings and weekends, will be required in all placements.

Accommodation for the year can be provided.

The Ministry Experience Scheme is voluntary. You are not obligated to fulfil any prescribed hours. We think you'll get the most out of the year with a regular, sustainable, weekly pattern. We will work with you to create a manageable schedule that helps you grow in faith and enjoy the year.

Key dates 2024/25

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS: 5PM, 29TH JUNE

KEY DATES (TBC)

2-4 SEPTEMBER LAUNCH RESIDENTIAL

23 NOVEMBER PETERBOROUGH DIOCESE 'EXPLORE' DAY

TBC MES NATIONAL CONFERENCE

3-5 MARCH MID-YEAR RETREAT

7 JULY PETERBOROUGH DIOCESE MES CELEBRATION

DEVELOPMENT DAYS ARE ON THE FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH.



Get in touch

Ready to apply?

Visit [MES - Peterborough](#) to download an application form.

Email your completed form to
louise.skinner@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Got questions?

Web: [Peterborough Diocese MES](#)

Email: chad.chadwick@peterborough-diocese.org.uk

Hi, I'm the Peterborough Diocese MES Coordinator. If you have any questions at all or would like to arrange an informal conversation, then email or call me for a chat.

Rev'd Chad Chadwick



Phone: 01604 887059

Find us: Bouverie Court, 6, The Lakes,
Bedford Road,
Northampton NN4 7YD.

FAQ

Do I get paid?

As long as the Ministry Experience Scheme is the main focus of your year, then all participants aged 18-30 are eligible for a grant which provides a weekly allowance of £156 for 48 weeks of the year.

Do I pay tax on the weekly allowance?

MES participants are volunteers, so the weekly allowance is not taxable. Under the National Minimum Wage Act 1998 (section 44), whilst voluntary workers can't receive payment for their work, they can receive 'some or all of their subsistence and/or accommodation'.

How is it funded?

The national Church, Peterborough Diocese and each placement church all contribute £2500 (a third of the cost). Each participant costs £7500 in total.

What age can I apply?

The minimum age is 18, there is no upper age limit. Participants that are age 18-30 are eligible for funding (and the weekly allowance). We have also had several self-funded participants that are aged 30-60.

Is it just for people that are considering ordination?

No. Whilst lots of our MES participants have gone on to train for ordained ministry in the Church of England, many have trained in other church ministries (such as children's and youth work) or a variety of other careers.

Is accommodation provided?

It is often possible for the placement church to provide accommodation with a local host, please enquire on application.

Can I stay in my current church?

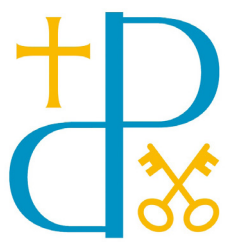
Many of our MES participants use their 'home' church as their placement. It requires the full support of the church leadership and sufficient local funding to be available.

Will I need a DBS?

Yes, all MES participants are required to go through the Enhanced DBS process and complete the required Church of England Safeguarding Training. The Peterborough Diocese MES Team will guide you through this.

Can I join from a different diocese / denomination?

Yes to both. We often have participants join us in Peterborough from dioceses all over the UK. The Ministry Experience Scheme is part of the Church of England, but accepts applications from Christians from a wide variety of backgrounds.



The Diocese of
Peterborough