

B4 ACCREDITED AND ACKNOWLEDGED LOCAL MINISTRIES.

Nationally accredited local ministries are the reader ministry of the Church of England and the ordained local ministry of priest and deacon. Acknowledged ministries are lay pastor, local evangelist, youth worker, and children's worker. Both accredited and acknowledged ministers are trained through the Diocesan Ministry Course. (see B9 Diocesan Ministry Course). Candidates train together to work in their mandated local ministry parish or benefice in a collaborative way.

Accredited Ministries

Reader Ministry (see B5)

Ordained Local Ministry (see B3)

Acknowledged Local Ministries

Acknowledged local ministry is designed for those individuals who feel called to undertake significant leadership in their churches and are prepared to train to diploma level. It is a lay ministry that is recognised by the local church, acknowledged by the diocese. Acknowledged local ministers are locally selected, trained on the Diocesan Ministry Course alongside accredited local ministers, and are commissioned by the bishop normally for five years, to work collaboratively in the local church context.

The local lay pastor is called to focus and enable the work of pastoral practice within the local church and community and should be rooted in its collaborative working practice. The work of the lay pastor will depend on the gifts and skills of the individual and the needs of the local church, but they are called to:

- challenge the church to care for the world as Christ does
- undertake specific tasks of pastoral care
- work with statutory and voluntary agencies to provide care in the community
- to enable the church to express Christ's ministry of healing and wholeness
- be competent in the use of appropriate liturgical forms in support of this work

The local evangelist is called to focus and enable the work of evangelism within the local church and community and should be rooted in its collaborative working practice. The work of the evangelist will depend on the gifts and skills of the individual and the needs of the local church, but they are called to:

- proclaim and live the gospel
- go where the church is not
- interpret the church to the world and the world to the church
- encourage the whole church in its work of evangelism, inside and outside the church
- lead worship and preach in appropriate circumstances

The local youth worker is called to focus and enable the work with young people within the local church and should be rooted in its collaborative practice. The work of the youth worker will depend on the gifts and skills of the individual and the needs of the local church, but they are called to:

- encourage and enable the church in its work with young people
- interpret the Gospel for young people
- help young people to interpret the Gospel for the church in the light of their experience

- undertake appropriate youth work in the local church
- work with statutory and voluntary agencies in the provision of services for young people

The local children's worker is called to focus and enable work with children within the local church and should be rooted in its collaborative working practice. The work of the children's worker will depend on the gifts and skills of the individual and the needs of the local church, but they are called to:

- encourage and enable the church in its work with children
- interpret the Gospel for children
- help children to interpret the Gospel for the Church in the light of their experience
- undertake appropriate children's work in the local church
- work with statutory and voluntary agencies in the provision of services for children

Canon E7 Of lay workers and E8 Of the admission of lay workers provide the legal background to these ministries.