

Formation for Reader Ministry in York Diocese

Principles and Values:

The Diocese of York recognises and values Reader Ministry as integral to the way in which the Church responds to God's missionary activity in this region. It acknowledges the Holy Spirit's activity conforming to the pattern of Christ those called into ministry and is committed to offering formational training for Reader ministry which:

- Is creative and life giving
- address the whole person, integrating spiritual, theological, ministerial and personal development
- is of the highest quality,
- is inclusive and accessible
- meets the individual needs of trainees and those of the diocese
- recognises the spiritual gifts and life skills which trainees bring and seeks to build on and enhance these
- promotes self-ownership of learning and development and seeks to embed this as an on-going facet of active ministry
- Is collaborative, integrating the formation of laity, clergy and ecumenical partners where possible

Aim

Reader Studies aims to form men and women to be participants in God's mission and ministry in the world and in the Church, as interpreters of His word, exemplars of His loving service and instruments of His dynamic activity, preparing them to fulfil the public representative role of Reader ministry.

Objectives:

- To enable Readers to grow in theological wisdom, which enables them to reflect upon, interpret and communicate the Christian faith in today's world.
- To equip Readers with the necessary resources for a growing awareness of themselves and others, which acknowledges their limitations and which is ready to refer to others.
- To form Readers so that they are examples of a Christ-like life in their church and community.
- To enable Readers to exercise collaborative leadership in the church's life and worship, and to encourage the local church to work together in mission, ministry and evangelism.
- To enable Readers to be spiritual leaders in their community and to share their faith with others.
- To enable Readers to exercise pastoral care in their Church and daily lives.
- To enable Readers to work collaboratively alongside other ministers with whom they are required to share ministerial responsibilities, and also with their congregations.
- To encourage Readers to assume continuing responsibility for their own spiritual and ministerial formation as the source of their vision, motivation and sustenance in ministry.