

BISHOP'S PERMISSION TO PREACH (BPP)

A Summary For PCCs

This summary is to provide PCCs with an overview of the BPP Programme as they consider whether to recommend a candidate for training.

How does the PCC benefit from this programme?

The BPP programme has been created to support the work of benefices and deaneries by equipping lay people to preach in their home parishes on a regular basis. Currently, lay members can preach no more than once a quarter with the agreement and supervision of the incumbent, unless they are LLMs or LLWs.

What does BPP offer?

As a Diocese we want to equip members of our church communities to live the mission of Jesus and to take the opportunity to share the love of Christ through the ministry of preaching. This programme is a way of recognising and affirming the preaching gifts of lay church members. The year-long programme provides the opportunity for training in biblical studies from tutors on the Winchester Licensed Ministry Training team as well as through participation in supervised regional preaching teams. It seeks to equip laity so that they "with care and sincerity can minister the word of truth for the glory of God and to the edification of the people" Canon B18.3.

What does the programme involve?

Twelve candidates will be selected from different benefices across the diocese for the pilot BPP which will run for a full calendar year, from January 2019 to December 2019. BPP candidates will follow a tailored pathway involving biblical study, homiletics, exegesis, and preaching styles.

The spring and autumn terms will comprise an introductory day, 5 evening tutorials and a closing study day; the summer term will comprise two module study days with 2 evening tutorials per module.

Successful completion of the training will provide a level 4 Foundation Award under Common Awards from Durham University.

Please note: there are written assignments to complete for each module and preaching assignments during the year too.

Where does the training happen?

Tutorials will take place at Wolvesey, Winchester SO23 9ND, on Thursday evenings from 7 – 9.15 pm. Study days are held at Wolvesey or Old Alresford Place from 9.30 am – 4.00 pm.

BPP candidates will join with other LMT trainees (ordinands, LLWs and LLM trainees) who are also studying through the Winchester School of Mission (WSM) for worship and social time together. Preaching practice will happen in local churches with other members of the regional preaching team.

What is the role of the Incumbent and PCC?

The incumbent working with the PCC has responsibility for ministry in the parish. Anyone commissioned by BPP will be accountable to them. The PCC will need to formally approve any application for the BPP programme, and in doing so will be committing themselves to using that person in the parish in this role.

How do people apply?

Participants will need to complete an application form, with the endorsement of the incumbent. The PCC will need to minute approval of the candidate for training and to agree to underwrite the cost – see below.

There is no upper age limit for BPP – the lower age limit is 18. The application forms will be assessed by WSM to select the initial 12 candidates for the pilot programme.

Please note: the closing date for receipt of application forms is **10 December 2018** (9.00 am).

What is the cost to the parish?

We currently charge an annual fee of £250 per person per programme. This costs covers the cost of all resources, registration under Common Awards with Durham University, and tutor training expenses.

How are candidates authorised?

In order to be given the Bishop's Permission to Preach, a candidate will need to have the following in place, all of which are essential:

1. A minute from the PCC recommending the candidate for this training.
2. A role description describing how they will be used once authorised.
3. A new clear DBS which relates to this new role – an existing DBS is not sufficient. Please note, it is not enough for the candidate to inform us that their DBS has come through and is clear – the diocesan safeguarding administrator needs to be formally advised by the parish safeguarding officer or the incumbent.
4. Successful completion of C1 and C3 safeguarding training.
5. A successful signoff from the preaching team tutor.

Once these are in place participants will receive a letter from the Bishop of Winchester confirming their temporary permission to preach. This temporary commission will be confirmed at the annual Lay Ministries Service which happens in October each year - the first cohort of BPP will be commissioned on 10 October 2020. The commission is valid for 5 years before needing renewal, which coincides with the DBS check timetable.

Further Questions

If you have further questions, or for an application form, please contact Frances Ter Haar Frances.terhaar@winchester.anglican.org or look the diocesan website: <https://www.winchester.anglican.org/bpp/>