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# Lay Ministry Courses 2025

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# General Lay Training Pathway

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Alongside Authorised Lay Ministry (ALM), we now offer the general lay training pathway for those wanting to access lay training and development more informally. The pathway involves a more simplified application process than ALM but will still require a supportive recommendation from an appropriate parish representative. Post training, we strongly encourage some form of locally recognised celebration or commissioning, with the ongoing support and care of the participant remaining under the oversight of the local parish. It will also be the responsibility of the local parish to ensure that the appropriate safeguarding training and DBS checks are in place for any resulting ministry roles or duties.

## What does the training involve?

All courses are around 12 sessions long and will run each year from April to July. Delivery will be a mixture of online and in-person teaching at a variety of venues around the diocese.

The courses that are currently available:

### Courses 2025

- Community Outreach and Social Justice
- Ecology and Creation
- Youth Work
- Children and Families
- Pastoral Outreach and Listening
- Parish Admin, Finance and Governance
- Prayer and Spirituality
- Worship and Liturgy
- Mission and Evangelism

## How much do the courses cost?

All the costs of training are met by the diocese but parishes are expected to support their candidates if help is required with basic costs such as travel expenses. However, if finances are a barrier to participation, please get in touch for further advice and support.

## Does the training involve any tests, exams or assignments?

There are no assignments, tests or exams on the courses. There may be a limited amount of prep work that is optional between sessions, but the ethos of the course is more focused on group discussions, reflective practice and real-life application. However, for those wanting to take things deeper there will always be suggestions for further reading, resources and ongoing development.

## Can you apply if your parish is in vacancy?

Yes, during vacancies/interregnums the application reference required from the parish can be completed by the Churchwarden, Licensed Reader, Team Rector, Mission Community Leader, Area Dean or another suitable minister/ church leader.

## What do you get at the end of the course?

We recognise that all lay training should be encouraged and celebrated, therefore participants will receive a course completion certificate signed by the Diocesan Head of Lay Training and Development. It is then up to the participant and the local parish to discern how best to utilise the training in terms of potential ministry roles and duties. Further support for this is provided by the Local Ministry Officer.

## How do I apply?

A course prospectus and application forms can be downloaded from the diocesan website. All applications require a supportive recommendation from an appropriate parish representative.

### More information

For further information about the course and details on how to apply, visit:

[www.manchester.anglican.org/general-lay-courses/](http://www.manchester.anglican.org/general-lay-courses/)

Alternatively, you can contact your Local Ministry Officer, Jamie Mackenzie

by email: [jamiemackenzie@manchester.anglican.org](mailto:jamiemackenzie@manchester.anglican.org)

by phone: 07553 374 130

### Next courses

Start April 2025

**Application deadline: 06 April 2025**