

Ministry Trainee Scheme

The Church:

St Michael's is a medium-sized Church of England parish church just a stone's throw from Victoria Station and Buckingham Palace. We are a congregation of all ages including families with small children, young people and students, young professionals, all the way through to retired people who have been at the church for decades!

As a local parish church we seek to reach out to the community around us in this very mixed part of London – extreme wealth lives cheek by jowl with abject poverty. Many of our people live locally but people also come to St Michael's from all round central, south and west London.

Teaching, understanding and obeying the Bible is at the heart of all we stand for as a church, both in discipling one another and in reaching out to those who are not yet Christians. Our goal is to be a church that is making disciple-making disciples.

The Ministry Trainee Scheme:

The scheme runs for two years (with the possibility of a third year for those actively pursuing ordination) and is roughly divided into three equal parts: Biblical and Theological Training; Ministry Training and Experience; Training and Involvement in Practical Service....

Biblical and Theological Training

Trainees are expected to attend The Cornhill Training Course that takes place on one day each week in term time: Mondays in year one, Tuesdays in year two, with the possibility of a further two-days per week third year on Thursdays and Fridays. Preparation and additional study as part of this program are required. The course focuses on learning to understand the Bible, and how to apply it both to our own lives and to our contemporary culture as well as to teach it effectively to others.

Ministry Training and Experience

Trainees are expected to attend a weekly meeting with one of the clergy to reflect and pray. There will be a combination of work-shadowing and formal sessions focusing on ministry skills, for example, on leading groups, one to one study sessions, planning and leading evangelistic events including helping with the running of Alpha courses, teaching children, youth meetings and activities, planning and leading services, giving talks and leading prayer meetings. Many of the sessions will be practical followed by individual review and feedback.

Training and Involvement in Practical Service

The trainees' involvement in this part of the scheme will chiefly involve learning by undertaking practical activities and physical tasks that support the running of the church. For example, setting up for activities, meetings and services within the church buildings, giving office support by responding to the telephone, and assisting the office staff with general church administration.

Appropriate computer-based training on the use of the database, spreadsheets, desktop publishing, word-processing is available. All Ministry Trainees receive audio visual training, health and safety training including Child Protection, and familiarisation with St Michael's Health and Safety policy.

Finance and accommodation

The church makes a grant to trainees, currently £5525 pa, with trainees asked to raise a further £2000 in order to fully meet their living costs.

St Michael's will pay The Cornhill Training Course fees, and for any additional costs incurred in ministry (eg travel, or hospitality).

Accommodation is normally provided at no further cost, usually lodging with a member of St Michael's in the local area.

Interview and Closing Date:

For an application form, or if you would like to talk further about being a Ministry Trainee, please contact Guy Axelson at guy@stmichaelschurch.org.uk

The closing date for applications is 28 March 2019