



LINDISFARNE REGIONAL TRAINING PARTNERSHIP

Principles and Purpose

Founding Principles

- That the Church should prioritise the continuing education and development of its members and become a community that is always learning, adapting and growing.
- That the Church should encourage integrated thinking between dioceses, denominations and other institutions that provide adult education.
- That the Church should intend to grow as a reflective, prophetic and developing community and appreciate that all of its activities are potential vehicles for shared learning.
- That ministerial training should be a natural extension of the ongoing learning of all disciples and be seen as a life-long duty for all authorised ministers.

Mission

Lindisfarne exists to support the Church in the NE by encouraging discipleship in communities of Christian learning.

Aim

To advance the Christian religion by the promotion and delivery of education for discipleship, initial ministerial education, and continuing development for ordained and lay members of participating churches.

Objectives

1. To promote, deliver and engage people in **Education for Discipleship** so that lay Christians within the region may be better equipped to speak confidently about their faith in church and the world. It does this by:
 - offering in-depth formational courses of around nine months' duration;
 - offering a range of short courses to supplement those available in deaneries, circuits etc;
 - offering help and advice to churches as they explore ways of developing discipleship.

The success of the Education for Discipleship programmes is measured by the level of engagement in each of the above. Low engagement with a particular programme might

indicate that it is time to review that area of provision, and update or replace where necessary.

Short term objectives

- Complete the revision of *Faith & Life* so that it is more accessible to a wider variety of users through use of a greater range of media (Completed as at 19 March 2012).
- Integration of LTT and ETT into Living Theology North East in time for an autumn 2012 start.

Medium term objectives

- Steady growth in participation north and south of the Tyne.
- To develop a roving programme accessing areas of the two dioceses that are far distant from the normal delivery points.
- Depending upon funding bid – research into ways in which Lindisfarne and the dioceses can together help participants on Developing Discipleship programmes to apply their learning in the local church context before and after their time on their course. Outcome of bid known spring/early summer 2012, if successful work to be undertaken over three years from autumn 2012.

2. To provide high quality **IME 1-3** via a framework for public ministry training within the context of the Churches' mission and ministry. It does this by:
 - seeking to further students' personal and spiritual growth and their understanding of mission in the world today, in the light of the Bible, Christian traditions and the world's agenda;
 - **as deacons and priests:** training students for an effective ministry of word and sacrament;
 - **as Readers:** preparing trainees for effective ministry of word and engagement between word and world, both in a traditional pattern and in light of the evolving nature of Reader ministry in today's Church;
 - equipping students with the skills to work collaboratively;
 - motivating and providing students with the necessary skills to undertake lifelong learning.

The success of IME 1-3 is measured by student engagement in the training programme as evidence by the satisfactory completion of academic modules, by their positive evaluation of the course and by the confidence of clergy in those who have completed this stage of their training.

Short term objectives

- Validation and curriculum questions need to be resolved – action to be taken once the national provider and scheme is known.
- **For Reader trainees:** to review the fruitfulness of the new residential programme.

- In collaboration with the two dioceses, to reflect on the expected shape of **Reader ministry** within a rapidly changing Church.
- **For ordinands:** to begin a process of annual review meetings with the sending incumbents in order to enhance the partnership with the home parish.
- **For ordinands:** to review the extent to which students are prepared for leadership in a Church which has mission as a priority.

Medium term objectives

- Continuing to deliver a high quality theological/formational programme for public ministry in the light of national developments.
 - To develop a closer partnership with parishes that enables continued learning and reflection on experience in context.
 - **Reader training:** to develop an alternative track for those Reader trainees who have demanding careers or home lives that makes it difficult for them to take 80 credits of modular learning per year.
 - **For Readers:** to identify students with the potential to engage at a future stage in the delivery of the Reader programme, having acquired academic qualifications at a level appropriate to the task.
 - **For ordinands:** to explore the interface between IME 1-3 and 4-7 with a view to fostering a community of learning that transcends this boundary.
 - **For ordinands:** to explore creative ways whereby the newly ordained can assist students in IME 1-3 in their formation
3. To deliver in conjunction with the Dioceses a programme for **IME 4-7** that enables curates and Readers to achieve the necessary levels of development to meet the Church of England's Agreed Learning Outcomes. For clergy this may entail their being ready to undertake a position of responsibility by the end of the IME period. It does this by:
- supporting the learning and development of curates and Readers through relevant and engaging training events, employing a primarily reflective approach;
 - supporting the learning and development of curates and Readers through the supervision they receive from their training incumbents (who are trained by Lindisfarne in supervision skills) and by supporting their work together;
 - facilitating the integration of theological learning and ministerial experience within both IME 1-3 and 4-7, and the ongoing integration of theory, practice and self-awareness in ministry;
 - working in full partnership with the Dioceses in the formation, support and assessment of those undertaking IME 4-7.

The success of IME 4-7 is measured by committed attendance at training events, by positive evaluation of the IME 4-7 programme by participants, by strong and productive relationships between curates and Readers and their training incumbents, and by the attainment of the Church's Agreed Learning Outcomes.

Short term objectives

- **For Readers:** working with the national outcomes that have recently been developed – incorporated into Ministerial Formation Portfolio and will be prominent in penultimate and final year reports to dioceses.
- **For assistant curates:** introducing the end of curacy assessment process in conjunction with the 2 dioceses by July 2012.

Medium term objectives

- **For Readers:** supporting Readers in developing a flexible approach to deployment and role description.
 - **For assistant curates:** working increasingly closely with the Continuing Development Officers of the 2 dioceses as Lindisfarne cohorts come to the end of IME4-7.
4. To provide, in conjunction with the participating churches, opportunities for continued development for ordained and lay ministers. It does this by:
- working with the participating churches at every level;
 - meeting expressed need where appropriate through enabling access to Lindisfarne's resources;
 - arranging quality one-off educational and training events;
 - working with diocesan Continuing Ministerial Development officers.

The success of this area of Lindisfarne's work is measured by its commitment to and engagement in meetings of Lindisfarne staff and Diocesan officers; through ordained and lay ministers taking part in Lindisfarne arranged programmes and events.

Short term objective

- To establish good working relations with the newly appointed CMD Officer for Newcastle Diocese and with the person to be appointed in Durham.

Medium term objectives

- Based on good working relationships with the 2 CMD Officers, to give access to a range of high quality programmes and events.
 - To build upon existing good relationships ecumenically to deliver events and programmes that seek to avoid unnecessary duplication and consumption of resources.
5. To be a financially secure and sustainable business. It does this by:
- having in place effective financial regulations that are carefully implemented;

- compiling management accounts and assessing management performance against budget performance regularly at meetings of the F&GP Committee and the Board of Trustees;
- drawing up and working within an approved budget.

The success of this area of Lindisfarne's work is measured by the solvency of the business; its capacity for holding an appropriate level of reserves; its ability to demonstrate that it operates within its means; the production of audited and approved accounts.

Short term objectives

- To effect a smooth transition in funding arrangements following the removal of HEFCE funding and in the light of new national arrangements. This work will need to be undertaken in time for September 2012 and again for September 2013.
- to ensure that a pathway for independent students is integral to any future validation and curriculum agreements and that future provision continues to meet their needs.

Medium term objective

- Tight fiscal management in a time of recession and economic uncertainty.