

Information about the skills and experience the Church of England looks for when considering people for training as Readers

A. CHRISTIAN TRADITION, FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP	<p>Candidates desire to learn from Scripture, tradition and the development of Christian thought. They ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have the potential for and desire to undertake structured and independent study and an openness to new ideas. • have an understanding of, and a commitment to, the key beliefs of the Church as expressed in the Scriptures and the creeds. • are willing to engage with hard questions.
B. MISSION, EVANGELISM AND MAKING DISCIPLES	<p>Candidates have a personal commitment to Christ. They...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have an enthusiasm and capacity to share the good news of the kingdom of God naturally and effectively. • are 'earthed' in, and have a clear sense of, the world as the context for Christian service and ministry. • show the potential for expressing themselves well in communicating the good news, in conversation and in writing.
C. SPIRITUALITY AND WORSHIP	<p>Candidates desire to grow closer to God through worship, prayer, Bible reading, study and reflection. They ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are open to exploring different expressions and disciplines of faith and spirituality. <p>They are developing their ability to relate prayer and worship to the world of home, work and society.</p>
D. PERSONALITY AND CHARACTER	<p>Candidates have personal integrity, are self-aware and emotionally stable. They ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are motivated by God's love for people. • are seen as stable and trustworthy by others. • are able to recognise their gifts, strengths and weaknesses and to receive feedback in constructive ways.
E. RELATIONSHIPS AND COMMUNITY	<p>Candidates are trustworthy, honest, approachable and a faithful member of the body of Christ. They ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • form, develop and maintain healthy relationships. • interact well with a variety of people. • have good listening and empathetic skills. • look to serve the wider community of which they are a part.

F. COLLABORATION AND SHARED LEADERSHIP

Candidates see collaboration as a hallmark of their membership of the body of Christ. They ...

- are able to work with a variety of different types of people.
- have the potential to lead.
- are able to engage with change in a flexible way.
- are able to disagree with others while valuing and respecting them as members of the body of Christ.

G. VOCATION AND MINISTRY WITHIN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Candidates have a sense of call to lay ministry motivated by a desire to serve. They ...

- are able to articulate an informed call to licensed lay ministry as a Reader that is recognised and affirmed by others.
- appreciate the significance of Scripture, tradition and reason in the CoE.

Candidates are baptised and episcopally confirmed regular communicants in the CoE who ...

- are aware of the diversity of approaches to belief and practice within the CoE.
- are prepared to be obedient to the authority of the church.
- are aware of the opportunities and challenges that the Church faces in engaging with contemporary society in mission and evangelism.

Candidates are willing to commit to learning and formation. They ...

- are able to make connections between experience and the Christian tradition.