

CANDIDATING FOR ORDAINED MINISTRY

G.8 CANDIDATES SUPPORT – THE FOUR-WAY MEETING 2020/2021

As soon as a person expresses a clear interest in candidating, and definitely by the time they complete the **C.1 Candidates Application Form** (available from candidates@methodistchurch.org.uk) the Candidate should ask the Circuit Superintendent co-ordinate a four-way meeting with the Candidate, District Candidates Secretary and Regional Learning Network Officer to draft out an individual support map.

Please note that this is not a place for interviewing or assessing the candidate. It is designed to provide support for them throughout the candidating process.

Mapping out Individual Support

The District Candidates Secretary will chair the meeting

The Learning Network Officer is responsible for drafting the individual support map in agreement with the other parties. This should be circulated as soon as possible, ideally within a week of the meeting. It is intended that this conversation should help the candidate to see how the various parts of the process and different kinds of support are connected and can work coherently for them.

In the table below, agenda items are suggested with responsibilities assigned to particular people. However the meeting might agree that in this particular case someone else will take on the responsibility. This will be made clear to the candidate.

Meeting Agenda Items	What is currently offered?	How will we build on this?	By whom?	Overall Responsibility
The need for personal support and identification of where this may come from				Superintendent
Opportunities for pastoral support within the circuit				Superintendent

The importance of prayer support and asking for it				Superintendent
The role of the mentor and who that might be (noting the responsibilities below)				Learning Network Officer
The type of placement a candidate needs				Learning Network Officer
Any additional support needs including learning support, English as a second language, understanding of British Methodist or cultural interpretation				Learning Network Officer
Provide details of the regional support group				Learning Network Officer
<p>Financial and time commitments of the candidating process including:</p> <p><i>1. meetings of the candidate support group;</i></p> <p><i>2. visiting the Queen's Foundation for the Candidates' Open Day;</i></p> <p><i>3. the circuit meeting, district candidates' committee, and connexional</i></p>				District Candidates Secretary

<p><i>candidates' committee;</i></p> <p><i>4. the conversation with the Warden and Deputy Warden for diaconal candidates</i></p> <p><i>5. the meeting with the psychologist (by video conferencing unless face-face is requested either by candidate or psychologist)</i></p> <p><i>6. Pre-allocations meeting</i></p>				
<p>The purpose of the psychological assessment</p>				<p>District Candidates Secretary</p>
<p>What support spouses, partners, family and significant others might need.</p>				<p>Learning Network Officer</p>

Candidate's Individual Support Map

It is the responsibility of the Learning Network Officer to complete this Support Map. Copies should be given to the Candidate and other members as soon as possible.

Meeting Agenda Items	Connexionally agreed Overall Responsibility	Local Meeting Agreed Responsibility
Who will offer personal support to the Candidate?	Superintendent	
Who will offer pastoral support within the circuit?	Superintendent	
Who will arrange for prayer support?	Superintendent	
Who might the mentor be?	Learning Network Officer	
Who will approach the mentor?	Learning Network Officer	
Who will inform the Candidate?	Learning Network Officer	
Discussion about what type of placement does the candidate need? The Methodist Diaconal Order can help to identify diaconal placements	Learning Network Officer	
Placement will be at:		
Who will make contact with the placement?	Learning Network Officer	

<p>Is any additional support needed? (including learning support, English as a second language, understanding of British Methodist or cultural interpretation)</p> <p>Who will provide this?</p>	<p>Learning Network Officer</p>	
<p>The Candidate should be provided with details of the Regional Support Group</p>	<p>Learning Network Officer</p>	
<p>Spend some time discussing the Financial and time commitments of the Candidating process. How will these be covered?</p> <p><i>1. meetings of the candidate support group</i></p> <p><i>2. visiting the Queen's Foundation for the Candidates' Open Day</i></p> <p><i>3. the circuit meeting, district candidates' committee, and connexional candidates' committee</i></p> <p><i>4. the conversation with the Warden and Deputy Warden for diaconal candidates</i></p> <p><i>5. the meeting with the psychologist</i></p> <p><i>6. pre-allocations meeting</i></p>	<p>District Candidates Secretary</p>	
<p>A conversation about what it means to live under the discipline of the Church</p>	<p>District Candidates Secretary</p>	

A conversation around what will the candidate do during the Candidating process to “let go” of their current church responsibilities.	Superintendent	
Time should be spent reflecting on the purpose of the psychological assessment	District Candidates Secretary	
What support spouses, partners, family and significant others might be helpful / offered?	Learning Network Officer	