

Growing Faith Minister (lay or ordained)

BRIEF

A Growing Faith Minister is an experienced lay or ordained leader who, *along with the Minster Community Ministry Team*, works to enable meaningful connections between churches, schools and households so that children, young people and adults encounter God and grow in their Everyday Faith.

They will promote a model of 'working with' children and young people, resource intergenerational learning and weave Growing Faith into the fabric of church life through training, resources and support, enabling all across a Minster Community.

FULL

A Growing Faith Minister (GF Minister) is an experienced, lay or ordained leader who, *along with the Minster Community Ministry Team*, works to enable meaningful connections between churches, schools and households so that children, young people and adults encounter God and grow in their Everyday Faith.

They will take lead responsibility for developing Growing Faith work across the whole Minster Community (MC) by enabling others in their ministry. This will take the form of supporting, training, and resourcing practitioners (eg. children, youth and family workers) on the ground.

The GF Minister will ensure there is appropriate representation on school governing bodies, *though this won't necessarily be the incumbent*, and they will be a part of a community of practice for Growing Faith ministers, supporting their local practitioners to be part of this.

They will encourage and resource churches within the MC to develop appropriate worship that meets the needs of children and young people, including intergenerational worship that enables shared learning across the whole congregation.

The GF Minister will promote a model of 'working with' children and young people to lead worship in schools and church, and therefore develop and grow in their relationship with God.

They will encourage and resource intergenerational learning at home so that families can grow in faith together. By enabling all within a worshipping community, they will weave Growing Faith into the fabric of church life and ensure the voices of children and young people are heard by those in leadership and governance.

An enabler of the ministry of others, the GF Minister will work in partnership with the bishops, churchwardens and PCC to appoint and establish good support and training for the 'local leadership' in their MC, seeking to ensure that all members of the worshipping community are enabled in their Everyday Faith.

They will also make sure that church-based youth provision (such as youth work/baptism and confirmation preparation) is linked to the Growing Faith vision.

The GF Minister will be commissioned to work across the whole MC and may be licensed and rooted within one or more parishes in the MC.

Within the parish they are licensed to, they will also be responsible for the worship, pastoral care and mission, in partnership with its PCC(s). It will not be right for all GF Minister's to hold this responsibly and this will be discerned in the appointment process.

The role of GF Minister will look slightly different in every MC, depending on its needs. The process of appointment will also be different in each instance.

If a MC forms with a full complement of stipendiary ministers in post, then the Bishop will lead the process of discernment.

If a MC does not have a full complement of stipendiary ministers, then the advert may be shared externally. In all cases, appropriate discussions will take place with PCCs and patrons.