



ATHROFA PADARN SANT
ST PADARN'S INSTITUTE

VOLUNTEER CHAPLAINCY

Development Programme for Part-time, Honorary and Volunteer Chaplains



Course Handbook 2024

INTRODUCTION

This document is your formal introduction to the course and provides core information.

IN PREPARATION

Part-time, Honorary and Volunteer Chaplains have vastly different amounts of time at their disposal. The resources provided are extensive so, if your time is limited, we quite appreciate that. Please don't feel under any pressure whatsoever to read all the content.

ASSESSMENT

There is no formal course assessment, but you have the option of writing up to three short assignments.

CONTACTS

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DESCRIPTION OF THE COURSE

This unique course is deliberately oriented to Part-time, Honorary and Volunteer Chaplains across the entire range of chaplaincy specialisms. It is based on our long-running Beginning Chaplaincy Course that we produced for appointed and experienced healthcare chaplains.

COURSE AIMS

The course aims to:

- give you greater clarity and confidence in your role
- inspire you to gain a deeper understanding of chaplaincy, practical theology, and reflective practice
- support you in sustaining safe practice and acting with personal integrity
- communicate what it means to be a representative member of a specific faith group – serving in a secular organization, embracing all faiths and none
- nurture you in theological reflection.

HOW THE COURSE WILL BE DELIVERED

The course will be taught at one residential through seminars and small groups. The course extends over 3 days from 12.30 pm on Monday until 12.30 pm on Wednesday.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

After completing the course, an engaged participant will:

Subject knowledge

- understand the context within which they operate
- have basic knowledge of major ethical theories and their application.

Subject specific skills

- be able to apply diverse theoretical perspectives to practice
- demonstrate independence of thought in reflecting theologically on the relationship between 'being' and 'doing' in public ministry/practice.

Key skills

- have confidence in demonstrating initiative, self-direction, and independence in tackling and solving problems (under the guidance of their line manager)
- exercise their learning skills to pursue professional development or academic study.

INDICATIVE CONTENT

- the distinctive role of chaplaincy
- the nature of host organizations
- reflective models appropriate to chaplaincy
- ethical models and their application to healthcare chaplaincy
- understanding pluralism
- issues of health and illness.

PREPARATORY WORK

To get the most benefit from your time with us, we have some optional work for you to do before you come. Please allow yourself half a day to complete this.

Most of this material relates to the healthcare setting from which this course has emerged. However, please feel free to adapt it to suit your context. We will seek to add material in response to participants from other specialisms.

Information gathering

Please consider reading and having available (electronically or printed) the following pieces of information (if they exist):

- your role description and person specification – we will not ask to see these
- your chaplaincy department's mission statement (or equivalent statement of the aims and objectives of the department)
- your organisation's Chaplaincy Policy.

If you are considering paid employment in a chaplaincy role, you may be interested in these documents from the healthcare sector (though you may need to seek out the appropriate one for your nation):

- [NHS Guidance](#)
- UKBHC [or equivalent] [Guidance](#) (please select for your nation)
- UKBHC (2015) [Healthcare Chaplaincy Bands and Duties Framework](#)
- Swift, C. (2015) [NHS Chaplaincy Guidelines: Promoting Excellence in Pastoral, Spiritual & Religious Care](#)

For a simple introduction to the facets of chaplaincy, you may want to read Threlfall-Holmes, M. & Newitt, M. (eds.) (2011) *Being a Chaplain*. London: SCM.

Preparatory exercises (optional)

Reflective exercise 1

Write a short piece (between 300 and 500 words) considering your chaplaincy experience. To what extent has this ministry/practice affected you as a person, and to what extent may you have influenced the ministry/practice of chaplaincy in your context?

Reflective exercise 2

Write a second short piece (again between 300 and 500 words) comparing your experience with the information you have gathered about your chaplaincy role. Are there gaps and differences? Were there things in the [Framework](#) or [Guidelines](#) that surprised you.

READING AND RESOURCE LIST (OPTIONAL)

The precise nature of the indicative reading will depend upon specialisms.

An asterisk (*) indicates resources you may want to consider buying or asking your employer to stock.

Non-academic background texts

Gawande, A. (2014), *Being Mortal: Illness, Medicine, and What Matters in the End*. New York: Metropolitan Books.

Kay, A. (2017), *This is Going to Hurt: Secret Diaries of a Junior Doctor* New York: Little, Brown.

Watson, C. (2018), *The Language of Kindness: A Nurse's Story* London: Chatto & Windus.

Bachelor's level introductory texts

Cobb, M. (2005). *The Hospital Chaplain's Handbook: A guide for good practice*. Norwich: Canterbury Press.

Lartey, E. (2020) 'Back to the future: Intercultural, postcolonial and inter-religious streams in practical theology'. *Practical Theology*, 13 (1-2), pp. 150-161.

Legood, G. (1999). *Chaplaincy: The Church's Sector Ministries*. London: Cassell.

- * Threlfall-Holmes, M. and Newitt, M. (2011). *Being a Chaplain*. London: SPCK.
- * Wells, S., Quash, B. and Eklund, R. (2017) *Introducing Christian Ethics. 2nd edn*. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

Bachelor's advanced and master's introductory texts

Gordon, T., Kelly, E., & Mitchell, D. (2010). *Spiritual Care for Healthcare Professionals: Reflecting on Clinical Practice*. London: Radcliffe Publishing.

Messer, N. (2002). *Theological Issues in Bioethics*. London: Darton, Longman and Todd.

- * Swift, C. (2014). *Hospital chaplaincy in the 21st century: The crisis of spiritual care on the NHS*, 2nd Edn. Aldershot: Ashgate.

Master's advanced texts

Francis, L., Hancocks, G., Swift, C. and Robbins, M. (2009). 'Distinctive Call, Distinctive Profile: The Psychological Type Profile of Church of England Full-time Hospital Chaplains', *Practical Theology*, 2(2): 269-284.

Fraser, D. (2010). 'Pastoral Heart and Critical Mind: The Shaping of Chaplaincy in the NHS', *Practical Theology*, 3(2): 179-190.

Gill, R. (2006). *Healthcare and Christian Ethics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hancocks, G., Sherbourne, J. and Swift, C. (2008). 'Are They Refugees?' Why Church of England Male Clergy Enter Healthcare Chaplaincy. *Practical Theology*, 1(2): 163-179.

Mowat, H. (2005). What do Chaplains Do? The role of the chaplain in meeting the spiritual needs of patients. Aberdeen: Mowat Research.

Mowat, H. (2008). The Potential for Efficacy of Healthcare Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care in the NHS (UK). Aberdeen: Mowat Research.

Newitt, M. (2010). 'The Role and Skills of a Hospital Chaplain: Reflections Based on a Case Study'. *Practical Theology*, 3(2):163-177

Pattison, S. (2000). *A Critique of Pastoral Care*. London: SCM.

Pattison, S. and Pill, R. (2004). Values in Professional Practice: Lessons for Health, Social Care and Other Professionals. London: Radcliffe Publishing.

Shakespeare, T. (2000). *The Disability Reader*. London: Continuum.

Trull, J.E., and Carter, J.E. (2004). *Ministerial Ethics: Moral Formation for Church Leaders*. Grand Rapids: Baker.

Websites

College of Healthcare Chaplains <https://www.healthcarechaplains.org/>

Network for Pastoral, Spiritual and Religious Care in Health
<http://networkhealth.org.uk/>

Journals

Health and Social Care Chaplaincy <https://journal.equinoxpub.com/HSCC/>