

Help! I've been recommended for training at the St Padarn's Institute 2024-25



What happens next?

We're delighted that you have been recommended for training. When we have received your sponsorship form from the bishop, we will be in touch more formally. However, this information may be useful in the meantime.

First of all, please ensure that you have the dates for next year in the

diary, and that you book time off work for the summer school (or any other arrangements you need to make) and if necessary, do the same for the weekend residentials.

Week Summer school

17- 18 August 2024 Induction **All new** ministry candidates only
18 – 23 August 2024 Summer School **All ministry candidates**

Weekend Residentials

11-13 Oct 2024 Residential weekend Location TBC.
14-16 Feb 2025 Residential weekend Location TBC
16-18 May 2025 Residential weekend venue TBC

Normally the residentials are held at various locations in Wales and start with supper at 7pm.

We have three modes of training:

- Full-Time, St Padarn's Cardiff based
- Full-Time, Diocesan based
- Part-Time

and four 'building blocks' of training:

- residentials
- theological (academic) learning
- formational cells
- placement





If you are training for a **part-time ministry**, normally you would remain at home, study theology locally on the Theology for Life (BTh) Programme, attend the summer school and weekend residentials and a local formational cell. Please look on our website for more information about the Theology for Life (BTh) programme.

If you are training for **full-time ministry**, normally you would follow the full-time programme which is either St Padarn's Cardiff based, or diocesan based. In both, you attend the **Wednesday to Friday programme** at St Padarn's Cardiff for 30 weeks per year, where you will be part of the St Padarn's Full-Time community, worshipping, eating, socialising, praying and learning together with others training for ministry. Your formational cell will be during the Wednesday – Friday programme and you will attend the residentials along with all those in training for ministry across Wales.

If you are diocesan based, for the remainder of the week you will be doing a two-day placement and having your study day based at home. If you are Cardiff based, you will be doing your placement in Cardiff or the surrounding area.

The usual pattern is:

Sunday: placement
 Monday: placement (or study day)
 Tuesday: study day (or placement)
 Wednesday: Cardiff
 Thursday: Cardiff
 Friday: Cardiff
 Saturday: Day off



If you need advice, more information or to talk potential training options through please contact lyn.davies@stpadarns.ac.uk who will get one of the tutors to contact you for a conversation.

We consider training to be an important investment for the future, we are keen to ensure that the training we put together for you is challenging and takes you on to the next level in your ministry journey, however experienced or qualified you already are.



Decisions regarding length and nature of training are taken in consultation between St Padarn's and the bishop, however normally full training takes 3 years or sometimes 2 years full-time. Part-time training normally takes 3 years. We will also take into account if you are already exercising a licensed ministry e.g., moving from being a

Reader to being ordained, or already have theological qualifications.

The nature of the qualification you will gain at the end will also play an important part in these decisions. Normally a bishop will want someone entering ordained ministry to have at least a diploma in theology. 6 years part-time and 3 years full-time leads to a degree, 4 years part-time, 2 years full-time, a diploma, and 1 year full-time, 2 years part time a certificate. Often candidates will have started the Theology for Life (BTh) course during the discernment process.

It is sometimes worth bearing in mind that it is much easier to move from part time to full-time study if you are at the end of a level. Finishing training at the same time as finishing a level (4,5, or 6) also means you gain a qualification, whether it is certificate, diploma or degree. If you are part time, if you start Theology for Life before training, you are then more able to gain (at least) a diploma. Please contact us to discuss this further.

Practical information:

Grants

The Church in Wales provides grants for people training for ministry. For more information and to use the Grant Calculator to estimate how much you could be entitled to please visit www.stpadarns.ac.uk/en/ministry/formation-licensed-ministry/ to estimate the level of your grant.

If you have any queries about this, please contact Siân Trotman the Learner Services Manager on: Main: 029 2056 3379

Direct office line: 029 20 838070

sian.trotman@stpadarns.ac.uk

Expenses



For those candidates who will be travelling to Cardiff, Wednesday to Friday, your travel costs for those journeys will be calculated and included in your monthly grant payments. Placement travel expenses should be completed using a St Padarn's expenses form. Candidates can claim for travel to residentials and travel to placements *outside* of the ministry area in which they live. For more information, look at the website

<https://www.stpadarns.ac.uk/en/ministry/formation-licensed-ministry/>

Theological learning

For those training full-time, the theology modules are taught during the Wednesday to Friday programme. For those training part-time, you will join other part time students all over Wales studying on the Theology for Life (BTh programme). More information about the course can be found on the St Padarn's website under Theology for Life. <https://www.stpadarns.ac.uk/en/courses/theology-life/>

On the part-time programme, you will attend two teaching sessions each term, one at the beginning, on Zoom, and the other in the middle of the term.

We run an annual induction for Theology for Life (the BTh) and a taster course. Do look out for this information on social media or get in touch for more information.

There is further information on our website, which is updated regularly. Please look out for our open days and taster courses – more information will be on our social media.

