Diocese of Salisbury
Ministry Team

DON'T
PANIC

The Friendly Acronym Guide
Irritated by the ‘in speak’?

Perplexed by the parlance?

Don’t panic—help is at hand!

The Ministry Team Friendly Acronym Guide demystifies and interprets those often used but rarely decoded acronyms

It doesn’t contain all Diocesan acronyms but only those most relevant to Ministry and Mission

So that we can keep the Guide updated please let us know if there is anything you’d like added or changed

A version is also stored electronically on the server at Ministry\Handy Acronym Guide

Got a question? Call the Ministry Team Office on 01722 411944 and we’ll be happy to help
ABC  Archbishops’ Council
Body with national oversight of ministry matters in the Church of England. Also an abbreviation for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Primate of the Province of Canterbury, spiritual leader of the Church of England and symbolic head of the worldwide Anglican Communion

ABY  Archbishop of York
Primate of the Province of York, the Northern Province of the Church of England

ACC  Anglican Consultative Council
Facilitates the co-operative work of the churches of the Anglican Communion

AD  Archdeacon
In the diocese of Salisbury there are four Archdeacons, Dorset, Sarum, Sherborne and Wilts

ADO  Associate Director of Ordinands
The ADO works collaboratively with the DDO (Diocesan Director of Ordinands) to guide candidates for ordained ministry through discernment, training and curacy

AiC  Assessment in Curacy
A national process of assessment by which dioceses ‘sign off’ curates who have completed the required learning outcomes, enabling them to take up a post under Common Tenure.

APL  Accreditation of Prior Learning
Academic credit awarded retrospectively for learning previously undertaken

APEL  Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning
Academic credit awarded retrospectively for experiential learning or learning ‘on the job’ previously undertaken

ARCIC  Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission
Ecumenical body working towards the reunification of the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England

BAP  Bishop’s Advisory Panel
National discernment panel which advises bishops whether candidates are suitable to begin training for ordained ministry

Bp  Bishop
The Bishop of Salisbury is assisted by two suffragan bishops, the bishops of Ramsbury and Sherborne

BCP  Book of Common Prayer
1662 Prayerbook containing various services authorised for use in the Church of England
CA Church Army
Mission-focused community committed to enabling and resourcing the church and its members to share the gospel

CDM Clergy Discipline Measure
Measure under which clergy guilty of a misdemeanour can be removed from office. Not to be confused with CMD!

CLP Commissioned Lay Pioneer
Person trained and commissioned to develop new Christian communities within their own parish/benefice, under the supervision of their incumbent

CMD Continuing Ministerial Development
Further learning and development undertaken by ordained and lay ministers after initial training and authorisation

CMS Church Mission Society
Registered charity that is also a recognised community providing resources and training for mission

CofE Church of England
The established Church in this country

CPAS Church Pastoral Aid Society
Registered charity providing resources and training for mission

CRC Central Readers’ Council
National body with oversight of the training and deployment of Readers (called LLMs in this diocese)

CTS (or CTos) Clergy Terms of Service
Legal framework for the deployment of ordained ministers under Common Tenure which gives ordained ministers most of the same rights as employees

CW Common Worship
Contemporary worship resource containing services and texts for all liturgical occasions. (Careful though—CW might also mean Church Warden!)

DAC Diocesan Advisory Committee
Subcommittee of Bishop’s Council responsible for the care of churches

DBE Diocesan Board of Education
Statutory Board responsible for schools, children and youth ministry. The acronyms BoE/BofE/BofEd are also sometimes used
DBF  Diocesan Board of Finance
The Board of Finance is a registered charity and is responsible for the finance and administrative functions of the Diocese

DBS  Disclosure and Barring Service
Mechanism for checking whether those seeking to exercise a public ministry have committed any offences that would render them unsuitable

DD  Deepening Discipleship
Ministry teamlet responsible for promoting whole life discipleship and delivering training and formation for lay ecclesial ministries

DDO  Diocesan Director of Ordinands
Officer responsible to the Bishop for discerning vocations to ordained ministry, sending candidates to a BAP and making recommendations regarding training of recommended candidates and initial deployment of those to be ordained

DEC  Diocesan Education Centre
Premises of the Diocesan Board of Education, located next to Wilton Park and Ride

DioSec  Diocesan Secretary
Person with overall responsibility for the finance and administrative functions of the Diocese

DirEd  Director of Education
Person with overall responsibility for the work of the Diocesan Board of Education

DirMin  Director of Ministry
Person leading a Diocesan ministry team

EMDL  Extended Ministerial Development Leave (aka ‘sabbatical’). A period of up to three months’ paid leave available to stipendiary clergy ten years after their priesting and every seven years thereafter to enable the development of ministry for the next phase. (see CMD brochure for more details)

Finco  Finance Committee
Subcommittee of the Bishop’s Council responsible for managing the finances of the Diocese

FiF  Forward in Faith
Campaigning group representing those who believe that women should not be ordained

GenSyn  General Synod
Governing body of the Church of England, consisting of the three houses of Bishops, Clergy and Laity
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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>5GP</td>
<td>The Five Guiding Principles&lt;br&gt;Framework of understanding enabling those who do not receive the ordained ministry of women to remain and flourish within the Church of England</td>
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<td>HoB</td>
<td>House of Bishops&lt;br&gt;Upper House of General Synod which also meets separately. Includes all Diocesan Bishops and a number of elected representatives from among the Suffragan and Area Bishops</td>
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<td>IME</td>
<td>Initial Ministerial Education&lt;br&gt;Programme of initial formation for ordained ministry, comprising 1-3 years before ordination and 3-4 years following ordination. The years before ordination may be referred to as IME Part 1 and the years after ordination as IME Part 2</td>
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<td>LfD</td>
<td>Learning for Discipleship&lt;br&gt;Previous name for Deepening Discipleship</td>
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<td>LLF</td>
<td>Living in Love and Faith&lt;br&gt;Work stream on human sexuality led by the House of Bishops with the aim of producing a teaching and learning document and associated pastoral guidelines</td>
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<td>LLM</td>
<td>Licensed Lay Minister&lt;br&gt;Person licensed to exercise a ministry of preaching, teaching, leading worship and enabling the learning of others within a pastoral context</td>
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<td>LPA</td>
<td>Lay Pastoral Assistant&lt;br&gt;Person trained and commissioned to offer a pastoral ministry within their own Christian community, under the supervision of their incumbent</td>
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<td>LWL</td>
<td>Lay Worship Leader&lt;br&gt;Person trained and commissioned to lead non Eucharistic worship within their own Christian community, under the supervision of their incumbent</td>
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<td>MDL</td>
<td>Ministry Development Leave&lt;br&gt;Short period of developmental leave just before, between or just after taking up a new appointment</td>
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<td>M&amp;M</td>
<td>Mission and Ministry Council&lt;br&gt;Subcommittee of the Bishops’ Council with oversight of mission and ministry in the diocese</td>
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<td>M4M</td>
<td>Ministry for Mission&lt;br&gt;Mission focused area of work within the Ministry Team, supported by the M4M Resource Officer</td>
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<td>MinDiv</td>
<td>Ministry Division&lt;br&gt;The national ministry department of the Church of England, based at Church House, Westminster</td>
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MSE  Minister in Secular Employment
Ordained person exercising ministry primarily in their place of work

NSM  Non Stipendiary Minister
This title is no longer used in the diocese. Ministers without stipend are referred to as Associate Ministers and elsewhere in the church as Self Supporting Ministers (see SSM)

OLM  Ordained Local Minister
This title is no longer used in the diocese although some ministers continue to exercise, and to be discerned for, a locally deployable form of ministry

(O)PM  (Ordained) Pioneer Minister
Ordained or lay minister exercising ministry with a pioneer focus

PotOrd  Potential ordinand
Candidate working with the DDO or ADO to discern a call to ordained ministry

PTO (or PtO)  Permission to Officiate
Person not holding the Bishop’s license but having permission to exercise ministry in a given sphere, usually in their local community under the supervision of their incumbent

RACSC  Remuneration and Conditions of Service Committee
Committee of the Archbishops’ Council responsible for these aspects of clergy deployment

RC  Roman Catholic
Member of the Roman Catholic church

RCC  Ripon College Cuddesdon
Theological Training Institution based near Oxford

RFO  Rural Field Officer
The #RuralHope programme is supported by four rural field officers, one in each archdeaconry

RLG  Reflective Learning Group
Group providing non managerial pastoral supervision for curates

RPG  Reflective Practice Group
Group providing non managerial pastoral supervision for ordained ministers

RTP  Regional Training Partnership
Affiliation of dioceses and ecumenical partners for the collaborative delivery of training

SCRTP  South Central Regional Training Partnership
Our own RTP comprising the dioceses of Bath and Wells, Guildford, Portsmouth, Oxford, Salisbury and Winchester together with the Methodist and United Reformed Churches
SDEF    Salisbury Diocese Evangelical Fellowship
Association of clergy in the evangelical tradition

SEC     Scottish Episcopal Church
The Anglican Church in Scotland

SpiDir  Spiritual Director
Person exercising a ministry of spiritual accompaniment, confidential guidance and prayer support

SoP     Statement of Particulars
Statement outlining the contractual terms, rights and responsibilities of an ordained minister

SSH     St Stephen’s House
Theological Training Institution based in Oxford

SSM     Self Supporting Minister
Ordained minister without stipend. See also NSM

SSWSH  Society of St Wilfrid and St Hilda
Also known as The Society. An affiliation of bishops, clergy and lay people who do not accept the ordained ministry of women

TIM     Transitions in Ministry
Regional Group, part of the SCRTP, responsible for delivering residential training at transition points in ministry

TEC     The Episcopal Church
The Anglican Church in the United States

TEI     Theological Training Institution
Residential College or non residential course delivering accredited training on behalf of the Church of England for clergy and other ministers

WATCH  Women and the Church
Campaigning group which exercises a watching brief on women’s ministry in the Church of England to ensure that women are treated fairly and equally