I applied to the MES after quite a long period of trying to work out my feelings of being drawn more and more to the church; no matter how many things I volunteered to help with, it always felt like there was more that I could be doing.

This scheme has been fantastic in helping inform me what it really is that clergy do, and the phenomenal amount of work that goes into any given parish.

The support has also been brilliant, providing me with so many opportunities for personal and spiritual growth – my prayer life is so much more fulfilling now, and looking back I can really see just how far I’ve come in just the first few months.

The clergy I have been working with have truly been a gift. I’ve been able to do so much with them: from helping with services, pastoral visits, and outreach groups; to playing a part in funeral services, school assemblies, and laity training days.

If you’re discerning a call of any kind towards the church, I couldn’t recommend the MES enough – in all honesty, it’s such a rare and fantastic opportunity. Go for it, you won’t regret it.

Richard Thomas, participant 2019-2020

How do I apply?

Email: sarah.keen@salisbury.anglican.org
For an application form

IMPORTANT: Successful application is subject to safer recruitment and DBS

Visit the vocations website
https://salisburycalling.org/pray-serve-grow/

Contact: Rev Peter Stone for an informal chat
01308 426459
pete@bridport-team-ministry.org

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A gap year opportunity for 18-30 year olds
Youth Project—possibly on a bus!
Shadowing other ministry
Personal allowance and accommodation

Ministry Experience Scheme in Lyme Bay Deanery

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The Project

We have a vision: To encourage the faith of young people in our churches and schools. To provide opportunities for young people to explore faith in relevant ways, in and out of schools. To enable a network of young Christians across our area. The possibility of launching a youth bus.

You would be help develop this vision by:

- Participation in schools and current youth work provision.
- Helping lead the development of youth work volunteer teams across the 5 benefices.
- Engaging with the clergy to develop the vision.
- Sharing the message amongst the churches & PCCs in the deanery.

You will see the diversity, struggles and joys of ministering in such a diverse environment. And work with helping cross the intergenerational divide that can exist in our communities.

You will have times and opportunities to accompany the current team of clergy in the deanery in their wide ranging tasks.

Key Points

- Youth Project
- Ministry Experience
- Small Personal Allowance
- Free Accommodation and Food
- Personal Mentor
- Training Opportunity

There are a variety of gifts, but the same Spirit and variety of services but the same Lord and there are varieties of activity but the same God who activates all of them in everyone. 1 Cor 12:4-6

Exploring Your vocation

- The scheme is for 18-30 year olds who wish to explore God’s call.
- God calls us in a variety of ways. It may be towards youth work, the religious life, a career with the Church Army, a longer term voluntary role within the church or to full time ordained ministry.
- Your mentor will guide you on your unique path.
- You may feel ready to enter a selection process during the year.
- The experience will challenge you. And take you out of your comfort zone.
- The year offers a great opportunity for faith development and nurturing your leadership skills.
- The year will create many memories.

What’s on offer

The experience runs from Sept 2020 to July 2021 for up to two people.

You will live with host families and receive a personal allowance of £35 per week. Working Expenses will be reimbursed.

You will be part of a youth project as well as given opportunities to shadow ministers and to participate in leading worship, preaching and a range of other pastoral and church leadership activities. Participating churches are from a wide spectrum of traditions and styles.

You will have the opportunity to obtain a Youth Work Qualification as well as studying theology with an experienced local mentor.

You will be supported by a placement supervisor to guide your week by week experience and a personal tutor who will mentor your development and discuss your ongoing vocation.

You will have opportunities beyond the project to meet with others from around the country on the scheme. You may also wish to spend a short retreat or slightly longer with the local Franciscan Community.

See back page on how to apply